



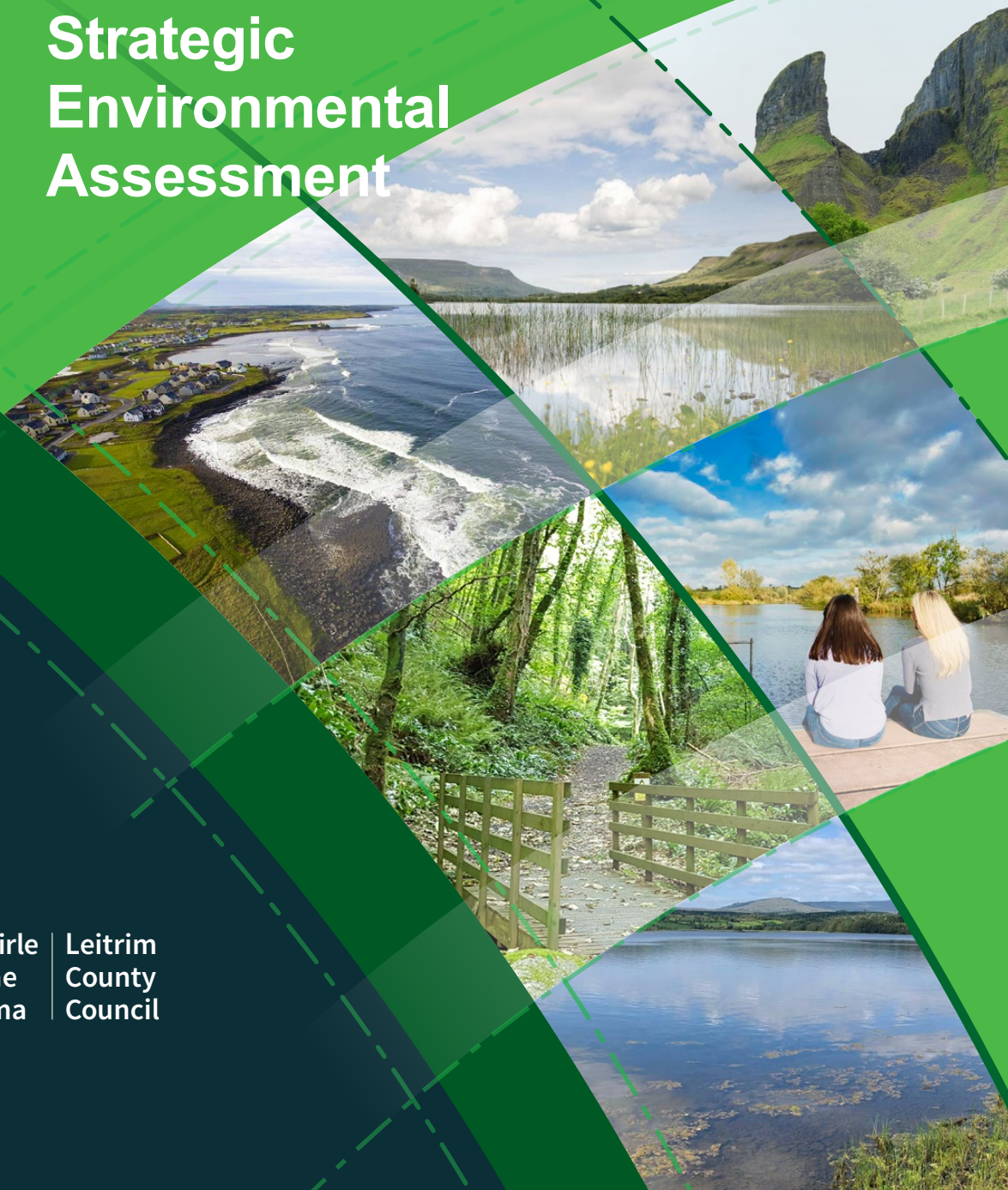
Leitrim County Development Plan 2023-2029

Proposed Material Alterations to Proposed Variation No. 1

Screening

for

Strategic Environmental Assessment



Comhairle
Chontae
Liatroma | Leitrim
County
Council

**SCREENING
FOR
STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
REPORT**

**FOR
PROPOSED MATERIAL ALTERATIONS
TO
PROPOSED VARIATION No. 1
TO THE
LEITRIM COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN
2023-2029**

for: Leitrim County Council



**Comhairle Chontae Liatroma
Leitrim County Council**

by: CAAS Ltd.



JULY 2026

Table of Contents

Section 1	Introduction and Background.....	1
1.1	Introduction and Legislative Requirements	1
1.2	Proposed Variation No. 1 and associated Proposed Material Alterations.....	1
Section 2	SEA Screening	3
2.1	Introduction.....	3
2.2	Screening for Appropriate Assessment	3
2.3	Strategic Flood Risk Assessment	3
2.4	SEA Screening Analysis	4
2.5	Schedule 2.....	21
Section 3	Screening for SEA Concluding Advice	25
Appendix I	Relationship with Legislation and Other Plans and Programmes.....	26

Section 1 Introduction and Background

1.1 Introduction and Legislative Requirements

This is a Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Report that examines Proposed Material Alterations to Proposed Variation No. 1. to the Leitrim County Development Plan 2023-2029, referred to hereafter as 'Proposed Material Alterations'.

SEA is the formal, systematic evaluation of the likely significant environmental effects of implementing a plan or programme, or variation to a plan or programme, before a decision is made to adopt it. The SEA Directive¹ requires, inter alia, that SEA is undertaken for certain plans and programmes. Screening is the process for determining whether a particular plan- or variation to a plan -, other than those for which SEA is mandatory, would be likely to have significant environmental effects, and would thus warrant SEA.

Under Section 58 of the Planning and Development Act 2024 (as amended) and the European Union (Land Use Planning – SEA) Regulations 2025 (SI No. 456 of 2025), Leitrim County Council is required to determine whether any Proposed Material Alteration to the Proposed Variation needs to be subject to SEA.

The purpose of this report is to inform whether or not to undertake SEA on any Proposed Material Alteration to Proposed Variation No. 1. This report should be read in conjunction with the documents cited within, including:

- Proposed Variation No. 1;
- SEA Environmental Report for Proposed Variation No. 1;
- Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA) Report for Proposed Variation No. 1;
- Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) Report for Proposed Variation No. 1;
- Proposed Material Alterations to Proposed Variation No. 1;
- Screening for AA Report for Proposed Material Alterations to Proposed Variation No. 1; and
- SFRA Report for Proposed Material Alterations to Proposed Variation No. 1.

1.2 Proposed Variation No. 1 and associated Proposed Material Alterations

Proposed Variation No. 1 arises from the publication of the National Planning Framework (NPF) First Revision and the National Planning Framework Implementation: Housing Growth Requirements Guidelines for Planning Authorities issued under Section 28 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) which place a statutory obligation on Planning Authorities to ensure that the necessary planning framework is in place including sufficient residential zoned land to facilitate the achievement of housing growth requirements over the plan period.

The Proposed Variation includes amendments to the Written Statement (Volume I), Settlement Plans (Volume II) and the Book of Maps (Volume III) of the Leitrim County Development Plan 2023-2029 and the amendments are presented in Section 4.0 of this document. The proposed amendments included in this Proposed Variation are outlined, in summary, below:

1. To include the addition of further lands with a 'New Residential' land use zoning objective to address the new housing growth requirements.
2. To include the land use zoning objectives and the land use zoning map for Carrick-on-Shannon as contained in the Carrick-on-Shannon Joint Local Area Plan 2025-2031 into the Leitrim County Development Plan 2023-2029 thereby ensuring that all zoned lands in the county are now contained in the Leitrim County Development Plan 2023-2029.

¹ Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of Ministers, of 27th June 2001, on the Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment

3. To rezone a parcel of land in Kinlough currently identified with a 'New Residential - Low Density' land use zoning objective to 'Agriculture' arising from a submission to the Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT) process.
4. To include the addition of further lands in Manorhamilton with an 'Enterprise and Employment' land use zoning objective.
5. To update Section 8.11.2.1 of the Plan - N4 Carrick-on-Shannon to Dromod Project to reflect the revised scope of the project to now comprise the Carrick-on-Shannon Bypass and Traffic Management Plan and reference in objective TRAN OBJ 3 to same.
6. To update the text to the Leitrim County Development Plan 2023-2029 as consequential changes arising from the foregoing.

Proposed Variation No. 1 and associated SEA, AA and SFRA documents were placed on public display and submissions were invited. Submissions are responded to in a Chief Executive's Report within which recommendations were made for Proposed Material Alterations to the Proposed Variation. Members agreed Proposed Material Alterations taking into account the Chief Executive's Report. The alterations propose a number of text and map-based changes to the Proposed Variation/associated documents. For further detail, the Proposed Material Alterations should be referred to.

Section 2 SEA Screening

2.1 Introduction

The section examines whether the Proposed Material Alterations to Proposed Variation No. 1 would be likely to have significant environmental effects (and thus would warrant the undertaking of SEA).

This examination takes account of relevant criteria set out in Schedule 2 '*Criteria for determining whether a plan is likely to have significant effects on the environment*' of the European Union (Land Use Planning – SEA) Regulations 2025 (SI No. 456 of 2025) (see Section 2.5).

2.2 Screening for Appropriate Assessment

Appropriate Assessment (AA) is an impact assessment process concerning *Natura 2000*, or *European*, sites - these sites have been designated or proposed for designation by virtue of their ecological importance. The Habitats Directive² and the Planning and Development Act 2024 (as amended) provide the requirement to screen for likely significant effects on European Sites. If the effects are deemed to be *significant, potentially significant or uncertain* then Stage 2 AA must be undertaken.

The Proposed Material Alterations are being subject to a screening for AA process in order to establish whether or not AA must be undertaken. The accompanying Screening for AA Report identifies that any likelihood of any Proposed Material Alteration (either individually or in combination with any other plan or project) having any significant effect on any European site can be excluded; consequently Stage 2 AA is demonstrated as not being required.

2.3 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) has been undertaken as part of the preparation of the Proposed Variation. Requirements in relation to SFRA are provided under 'The Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines for Planning Authorities' (Department of Environment and Office of Public Works, 2009) and associated Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government Circular PL2/2014. The SFRA has informed both the land use zoning and the written provisions of the Proposed Variation. The Proposed Material Alterations have been considered in the accompanying SFRA Report for Proposed Material Alterations to Proposed Variation No. 1 – these considerations have informed this Screening for SEA report.

² Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora

2.4 SEA Screening Analysis

The analysis of Proposed Material Alterations is undertaken considering interactions Strategic Environmental Objectives (see Table 2.1). Table 2.2 examines whether each part of the Proposed Material Alterations would be likely to have significant environmental effects (and thus would warrant the undertaking of SEA).

Table 2.2 is supplemented by Table 2.3 which provides details on:

- Likely significant effects of implementing the Proposed Variation, if unmitigated;
- Key mitigation measure(s) that are already contained within the Proposed Variation and associated existing Leitrim County Development Plan 2023-2029; and
- Likely residual non-significant adverse effects arising from the Proposed Variation.

Effects encompass the full range of effects³, including those arising cumulatively – such as those potentially arising as a result of interactions with other plans and programmes.

The examination of Proposed Material Alterations also takes into account relevant criteria set out in Schedule 2 *'Criteria for determining whether a plan is likely to have significant effects on the environment'* of the European Union (Land Use Planning – Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2025 (see Section 2.5).

Table 2.1 Strategic Environmental Objectives

Environmental Component	Guiding Principle	Strategic Environmental Objectives
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	No net contribution to biodiversity losses or deterioration	• Preserve, protect, maintain and where appropriate, restore the terrestrial, aquatic and soil biodiversity, of international, EU and nationally designated sites, protected species and habitats. • Ensure no adverse effects on the integrity of any European site, regarding its qualifying interests, associated conservation status, structure and function. • Maintain and where appropriate, enhance the biodiversity value of local designated and non-designated ecological and heritage areas, which function as stepping stones for migration, dispersal and genetic exchange of wild species. • Enhance biodiversity in line with the National Biodiversity Strategy and its targets.
Population and Human Health	Improve quality of life for all ages and abilities based on high-quality, serviced, well connected and sustainable residential, working, educational and recreational environments	• Provide high quality residential, community, working and recreational environments with access to sustainable transport options. • Promote economic growth to encourage retention of working age population and funding of sustainable development and environmental protection. • Ensure that existing population and planned growth is linked with the required infrastructure and the services. • Protect human health and well-being from environment-related pressures.
Soil (and Land)	Ensure the long-term sustainable management of land	• Protect soils against pollution, and prevent degradation of the soil resource. • Promote the sustainable use of infill and brownfield sites over the use of greenfield. • Safeguard areas of prime agricultural land and designated geological sites.
Water	Protection, improvement and sustainable management of the water resource	• Ensure that the status of water bodies is protected, maintained and improved in line with the requirements of the Water Framework Directive. • Ensure water resources are sustainably managed to deliver proposed regional and County growth targets in the context of existing and projected water supply and wastewater capacity constraints ensuring the protection of receiving environments. • Avoid inappropriate zoning and development in areas at risk of flooding and areas that are vulnerable to current and future erosion. • Integrate appropriate flood risk management measures and sustainable water management solutions (such as SuDS, porous surfacing and green roofs) into development proposals.

³ These include secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects

Environmental Component	Guiding Principle	Strategic Environmental Objectives
Material Assets	Sustainable and efficient use of natural resources	• Optimise existing infrastructure and provide new infrastructure to match population distribution proposals in the County. • Promote the circular economy, reduce waste, and increase energy efficiencies. • Ensure there is adequate sewerage, water and drainage infrastructure in place to support new development. • Reduce the energy demand from the transport sector and support moves to electrification of transport modes and active travel.
Air	Support clean air policies that reduce the impact of air pollution on the environment and public health	• To avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects on human health and the environment as a whole resulting from emissions to air from all sectors with particular reference to emissions from transport, residential heating, industry and agriculture. • Maintain and promote continuing improvement in air quality through the reduction of emissions and promotion of renewable energy and energy efficiency. • Promote continuing improvement in air quality. • Reduction of emissions of sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, volatile organic compounds, ammonia and fine particulate matter which are responsible for acidification, eutrophication and ground-level ozone pollution. • Meet Air Quality Directive standards for the protection of human health — Air Quality Directive. • Significantly decrease noise pollution and move closer to WHO recommended levels.
Climatic Factors	Achieving transition to a competitive, low carbon, climate-resilient economy that is cognisant of environmental impacts	• Minimise contribution to Climate Change by adopting mitigation and adaptation measures. • Integrate sustainable design solutions into the County's infrastructure (e.g. energy efficient buildings; green infrastructure). • Contribute towards the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in line with national targets. • Encourage and promote development resilient to the effects of climate change. • Promote the use of renewable energy, energy efficient development and increased use of public transport and active travel.
Cultural Heritage	Safeguard cultural heritage features and their settings through responsible design and positioning of development	• Protect places, features, buildings and landscapes of cultural, archaeological and / or architectural heritage.
Landscape	Protect and enhance the landscape character	• To implement the Development Plan's framework for identification, assessment, protection, management and planning of landscapes having regard to the European Landscape Convention.

Table 2.2 SEA Screening Analysis of Proposed Material Alterations⁴

Ref	SEA Screening Consideration
1	This alteration would further contribute towards provisions related to this sector/topic that are already contained within the Proposed Variation. Considering the measures that have been already integrated into the Proposed Variation and the existing Development Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development, it is determined that all potential effects arising from this Proposed Material Alteration: either are present already (beneficial) and will be further contributed towards; and/or will be mitigated so as not to be significant (adverse). Consequently, SEA is not required. Refer also to Table 2.3 and Section 2.5.
2	The update to terminology/language/wording/mapping/supporting documentation would not change the effects arising from the Proposed Variation. As such, this alteration would not be considered as being likely to result in significant environmental effects. Consequently, SEA is not required.
3	This alteration relates to Proposed Variation text that sets the context for, summarises and/or provides clarification to Proposed Variation provisions. It does not interact with existing Proposed Variation provisions to an extent that it would have additional significant environmental effects. Consequently, SEA is not required.
4	This alteration adds more detail but would not have the potential to result in significant environmental effects. Consequently, SEA is not required.
5	This alteration provides consistency with other parts of the Proposed Variation and/or with the wider planning and policy framework. It would not interact with Proposed Variation provisions to the extent that it would have environmental effects. Consequently, SEA is not required.
6	Removal of this provision/text would remove the potential for any environmental effects; however, removal of the provision/text would not be likely to result in any environmental effects. Consequently, SEA is not required.
7	This amendment would not provide the most evidence-based framework for development and has the potential to undermine sustainable development and proper planning - with potential for associated unnecessary adverse environmental effects on various environmental components. Taking this into account, SEA is advised as being required.

Proposed Material Alteration No.	SEA Screening Consideration Reference
1	Selection of Considerations from Ref. 1 to 6 above - SEA not required
2	Selection of Considerations from Ref. 1 to 6 above - SEA not required
3	Selection of Considerations from Ref. 1 to 6 above - SEA not required
4	Selection of Considerations from Ref. 1 to 6 above - SEA not required
5	Selection of Considerations from Ref. 1 to 6 above - SEA not required
6	Selection of Considerations from Ref. 1 to 6 above - SEA not required
7	Ref. 7 above - SEA required
8	Ref. 7 above - SEA required
9	Ref. 7 above - SEA required
10	Ref. 7 above - SEA required
11	Selection of Considerations from Ref. 1 to 6 above - SEA not required
12	Ref. 7 above - SEA required (No. 12 relates to No. 10)
13	Selection of Considerations from Ref. 1 to 6 above - SEA not required
14	Ref. 7 above - SEA required (No. 14 relates to No's. 7, 8 and 9)
15	Selection of Considerations from Ref. 1 to 6 above - SEA not required

⁴ For detail on Proposed Material Alterations please refer to Proposed Material Alterations document.

Table 2.3 Details of environmental effects with respect to Proposed Variation No. 1 in combination with the wider planning framework

Environmental Component	Environmental Effects, in combination with the wider planning framework			Mitigating measures ⁵ including:
	Significant Positive Effect, likely to occur	Potentially Significant Adverse Environmental Effects, if unmitigated	Likely Adverse Non-Significant Effects	
Various – see below	Various – see below	Various – see below	Various – see below	Existing County Development Plan Development Management Standards from Chapter 13 of the Plan ILU POL 6 New transport infrastructure projects, including blueways and greenways, that are not already provided for by existing plans/programmes, which have been subject to environmental assessment, or are not already permitted, will be subject to feasibility assessment, considering need, environmental sensitivities as identified in the SEA Environmental Report, and objectives relating to sustainable mobility. Where feasibility is established, a Corridor and Route Selection Process will be undertaken, where appropriate, in two stages: Stage 1 – Route Corridor Identification, Evaluation and Selection; and Stage 2 – Route Identification, Evaluation and Selection. This Corridor and Route Selection Process will not be applicable to national roads schemes which are required to be progressed in accordance with statutory processes and TII Publications, including the Project Management Guidelines and Project Appraisal Guidelines. RUR SET POL 7 To have regard to the Sustainable Rural Housing Guidelines for Planning Authorities, April 2005, and any replacement guidance which require that new houses in rural areas be sited and designed to integrate with their physical surroundings and be generally compatible with: - The protection of water quality in the arrangements made for onsite wastewater disposal facilities, - The provision of a safe means of access in relation to road and public safety, and, - The conservation of sensitive areas such as natural habitats, protected landscapes, the environs of protected structures and other aspects of our heritage. BG OBJ 1 To facilitate and lead in the delivery and completion of the Sligo Leitrim Northern Counties Railway Greenway along / adjoining the former Sligo Leitrim Northern Counties Railway (SLNCR) between Collooney, Co. Sligo and Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh in co-operation with Sligo and Cavan County Councils and Fermanagh and Omagh District Council subject to obtaining the necessary planning consent and only where it can be demonstrated that the development will not have significant adverse effects on the environment, including the integrity of the Natura 2000 network. All proposed developments shall be in accordance with the Birds and Habitats Directive, Water Framework Directive and all other relevant EU Directives. BG OBJ 2 To seek to advance the design and obtaining necessary planning consent to construct a Greenway along / adjoining the former Cavan & Leitrim Rail line between Dromod and Belturbet, Co. Cavan in co-operation with Cavan County Council. The required planning consent will require the demonstration that the development will not have significant adverse effects on the environment, including the integrity of the Natura 2000 network. All proposed developments shall be in accordance with the Birds and Habitats Directive, Water Framework Directive and all other relevant EU Directives. BG OBJ 4 To deliver a Blueway linking Carrick-on-Shannon to Leitrim Village and onwards to Battlebridge subject to obtaining the necessary planning consent and only where it can be demonstrated that the development will not have significant adverse effects on the environment, including the integrity of the Natura 2000 network. All proposed developments shall be in accordance with the Birds and Habitats Directive, Water Framework Directive and all other relevant EU Directives. BG OBJ 3 To complete the Blueway from Kildare to Ballinamore subject to obtaining the necessary planning consent and only where it can be demonstrated that the development will not have significant adverse effects on the environment, including the integrity of the Natura 2000 network. All proposed developments shall be in accordance with the Birds and Habitats Directive, Water Framework Directive and all other relevant EU Directives. WI POL 5 To ensure the efficient and sustainable use and development of water resources and water services infrastructure, in order to manage and conserve water resources in a manner that supports a healthy society, economic development requirements and a cleaner environment. Water abstractions should ensure appropriate levels of environmental management and protection, including ensuring compliance with the Water Framework Directive and Habitats Directive. PL POL 1 To control lighting in urban and rural areas and in particular in sensitive locations, in order to minimise impacts on residential amenity, habitats and species of importance. AGG RES POL 7 To ensure that development for aggregates / mineral extraction, processing and associated processes does not significantly impact in the following areas:

⁵ Such measures may be subject to update at adoption to take account of proposed material alterations and/or any further modifications.

Screening for SEA Report

			a) Special Areas of Conservation and / or Special Protection Areas, b) Natural Heritage Areas and Proposed Natural Heritage Areas, c) Other areas of importance for the conservation of flora and fauna, d) Areas of significant archaeological potential, e) In the vicinity of a recorded National Monument, f) Sensitive Landscapes and, g) County Geological Sites and/or sites of geological importance WE POL 2 To ensure that the assessment of wind energy development proposals will have regard to the following: • sensitivities of the county's landscapes; • visual impact on protected views, prospects, designated landscapes, as well as local visual impacts; • impacts on nature conservation designations, archaeological areas, county geological sites, historic structures, public rights of way and walking routes; • local environmental impacts, including those on residential properties, such as noise and shadow flicker; • visual and environmental impacts of associated development, such as access roads, plant and grid connections from the proposed wind farm to the electricity transmission network; • scale, size and layout of the project and any cumulative effects due to other projects; • the impact of the proposed development on protected bird and mammal species. Proposed Variation No. 1 Integration of mitigation into new Objective MHN 15: "To provide for and enable the development of a dynamic cluster of construction testing, certification, innovation and related heavy manufacturing activities on a site identified off the R280 to the south of the town. This will require the preparation of a Framework Plan in conjunction with the first phase of development. The Framework Plan shall be prepared to ensure: • the provision of safe access to the lands taking account of the difference in levels between the R280 and the site in question; • avoidance of impact on the electricity transmission lines overhead; • the lands being included in the SLNCR preferred route corridor; • to minimise the impact to the dwelling to the north and the two dwellings which adjoin off Ross Lane; • a coherent architectural treatment of buildings; • a surface water management plan which takes account of the number of land drains within and adjoining the site; • proposals to connect to the footpath and Greenway opposite, and the servicing of the site from a water supply and wastewater treatment perspective."
Biodiversity and Flora and Fauna	• Contribution towards protection of ecology (including designated sites, ecological connectivity, habitats) by facilitating development of lands (including those within and adjacent to the County's settlements) that have relatively low levels of environmental sensitivities and are served (or can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop more sensitive, less well-served lands elsewhere in the County and beyond. • Contribution towards the maintenance of existing green infrastructure and associated ecosystem services, listed species, ecological connectivity and non-designated habitats.	Arising from both construction and operation of development and associated infrastructure: • Loss of/damage to biodiversity in designated sites (including European Sites and Wildlife Sites) and Annexed habitats and species, listed species, ecological connectivity and non-designated habitats; and disturbance to biodiversity and flora and fauna; • Habitat loss, fragmentation and deterioration, including patch size and edge effects; and • Disturbance (e.g. due to noise and	• Loss of an extent of non-protected habitats and species arising from the replacement of semi-natural land covers with artificial surfaces. • Losses or damage to ecology (these would be in compliance with relevant legislation). Existing County Development Plan TOUR POL 6 To seek to sustainably manage any increase in visitor numbers in order to avoid significant effects including loss of habitat and disturbance, including ensuring that any new projects, such as blueways and greenways, are a suitable distance from ecological sensitivities, such as riparian zones. TOUR POL 7 Where relevant, the Council and those receiving consent for development shall seek to sustainably manage any increase in visitor numbers and/or any change in visitor behaviour in order to avoid significant effects to sensitive habitats, including loss of habitat and disturbance. Management measures may include ensuring that new projects and activities are a suitable distance from ecological sensitivities. Visitor/Habitat Management Plans will be required for proposed projects as relevant and appropriate. ADV TOUR OBJ 4 To prepare Habitat and Visitor Management Plans for the protection of areas which are particularly sensitive to visitors subject to the availability of funding. The first such plan will be developed for Sheemore LAND USE POL 3 To protect the integrity of Special Areas of Conservation where such European Sites traverse through town and village settlements which includes lands identified for development within Dromahair, Kinlough, Manorhamilton and Rossinver development envelopes. These European Sites are protected from inappropriate development under the European Habitats Directive, transposing national legislation and various provisions under this Plan, which take primacy over other Development Plan provisions. RUR ECON POL 5 The Council will provide for the sustainable development of fisheries, where this is in compliance with the Habitats and Birds Directives and other ecological protection objectives. Where new infrastructure is being provided, it should be positioned at already modified locations where feasible and sedimentation and siltation issues should be considered, with floating infrastructure used where feasible. Fishery related developments may necessitate the preparation of a Visitor/Habitat Management Plan that includes requirements in relation to sustainable fishing practices that would not affect the ecological site integrity and invasive species. AGR OBJ 1 To facilitate the development of agriculture while ensuring that natural waters, wildlife habitats and conservation areas are protected from pollution. FOR POL 3 To have regard to the recommendations contained in the Landscape Capacity Study for Commercial Forestry (March 2022) which forms Appendix VI to this Plan in informing the responses submitted by the Local Authority to all relevant applications for Tree Planting and Tree Felling licenses to the Forest Service or subsequent appeals to the Forestry Appeals Committee. This will be line with the content of Section 10.6.5. AGG RES POL 4 To ensure that projects associated with the extractive industry carry out screening for Appropriate Assessment in accordance with Article 6(3) of the E.C. Habitats Directive and comply with all relevant Environmental Legislation as required. Natural Heritage Policies NH POL 1 To protect and conserve Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas.

Screening for SEA Report

• Contribution towards protection and/or maintenance of biodiversity and flora and fauna by contributing towards the protection of natural capital including the environmental vectors of air, water and soil. Biodiversity and flora and fauna includes biodiversity in designated sites (including European Sites and Wildlife Sites) and Annexed habitats and species (including birds and bats), listed/protected species, ecological connectivity and non-designated habitats (including terrestrial and aquatic habitats), and disturbance to biodiversity and flora and fauna – including terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity and flora and fauna. • Sustains existing sustainable rural management practices – and the communities who support them – to ensure the continuation of long-established managed landscapes and the flora and fauna that they contain.		lighting along transport corridors) and displacement of protected species such as birds and bats.	NH POL 2 To implement Article 6(3) and where necessary Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive, including to ensure that Appropriate Assessment is carried out in relation to works, plans and projects with the potential to impact European sites (SACs and SPAs), whether directly or indirectly or in combination with any other plan(s) or project(s). All assessments must be in compliance with the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011, as amended, and the Planning and Development Act, as relevant. NH POL 3 To protect designated Natural Heritage Area (NHA) sites, including proposed Natural Heritage Area sites (pNHA) and seek to develop linkages between designated sites and other non-designated sites of ecological importance, where feasible and as resources permit. NH POL 4 To consult with relevant prescribed bodies, such as the National Parks and Wildlife Service (DoHGLH), and take account of any licensing requirements when undertaking, approving and authorising development which is likely to affect plant, animal or bird species or habitats protected by law. NH POL 5 To ensure that development does not have a significant adverse impact on plant, animal or bird species or habitats protected by law, subject to satisfactory mitigation measures. NH POL 6 To protect and where possible enhance wildlife habitats and landscape features which act as ecological corridors/networks and stepping stones, such as river corridors, hedgerows and road verges, and to minimise the loss of habitats and features of the wider countryside (such as ponds, wetlands, trees) which are not within designated sites. NH POL 7 To treat the uplands of North Leitrim located above the 160m contour, as an ecologically-sensitive entity, where these uplands are not already designated as such. NH POL 8 To protect ecological networks linking protected and designated important sites within the County, in accordance with Article 10 of the Habitats Directive. NH POL 9 To ensure that appropriate mitigation and/or compensation measures to conserve biodiversity, landscape character and green infrastructure networks are required in developments where habitats are at risk or lost as part of a development. NH POL 10 To ensure the protection, conservation and enhancement of the biodiversity of the county. Natural Heritage Objectives NH OBJ 1 To ensure that no project or programme giving rise to significant adverse, direct, indirect, secondary or cumulative impacts on the integrity of any Natura 2000 site(s), having regard to their qualifying interests and conservation objectives, arising from their size, scale, area or land take, proximity, resource requirements, emissions (disposal to land, water or air), transportation requirements, duration of construction, operation, decommissioning or from any other effects shall be permitted on the basis of this Plan (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) . NH OBJ 2 To protect and conserve those sites designated as Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) during the lifetime of this plan. The list of current SACs is contained in Table 1 of this chapter. NH OBJ 3 To protect and conserve those sites designated as Special Protection Areas during the lifetime of this plan. There is current one SPA in Co. Leitrim which is contained in Table 2 of this chapter. NH OBJ 4 To protect and conserve Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs) and proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHAs) that become designated and notified to the Local Authority during the lifetime of this plan. The list of current NHAs and proposed NHAs are contained in Table 3 and 4 of this chapter. NH OBJ 5 To protect the character, appearance and quality of the habitats and semi-natural features in County Leitrim such as woodlands, hedgerows, peatlands, wetlands and artificial waterways of historic or ecological importance. NH OBJ 6 To promote, in partnership with the relevant agencies, the development and implementation of codes of best practice through initiatives such as the Local Floral Pride initiatives, Community Environmental Action and the Green Schools projects. NH OBJ 7 To encourage appropriate management of landscape features, particularly through the development management process and using planning agreements with landowners and developers, where appropriate. NH OBJ 8 To identify and map over the lifetime of the Plan habitats and green infrastructure / sites of local biodiversity value of county importance and to raise awareness and understanding of the county's natural heritage and biodiversity. NH OBJ 9 To support the implementation of the relevant recommendations contained in the National Biodiversity Action Plan and the All Ireland Pollinator Plan. NH OBJ 10 To support the implementation of the actions contained in the Biodiversity Action Plan 2021-2025 when finalised, or any successor plan, in partnership with all relevant stakeholders and subject to the availability of the necessary funding sources. Peatlands Policies PEAT POL 1 To conserve peatlands and protect peatland landscapes within the County. PEAT POL 2 To seek hydrological reports for significant developments within and close to peatlands, to assess potential impacts on the integrity of the peatland ecosystems. Trees, Woodlands & Hedgerows Policies TWH POL 1 To discourage the felling of healthy mature trees to facilitate development and to encourage the retention of healthy mature trees within developments to the maximum extent practicable. TWH POL 2 To require the planting of native broadleaved species, and species of local provenance, in new developments as appropriate. (See Table 5 in this regard). TWH POL 3 To support the Native Woodland and Neighbourhood schemes and other initiatives that aim to establish and enhance woodlands for recreational and wildlife benefits, in partnership with local communities. TWH POL 4 To protect and preserve existing hedgerows and minimise their removal. Where their removal is necessary, to seek their replacement with new hedgerow material native to the area (See Table 5 in this regard).
--	--	--	--

Screening for SEA Report

				TWH POL 5 To retain distinctive boundary treatment such as stone walls, when undertaking, authorising or approving development. Where the loss of the existing boundary is unavoidable as part of development, to ensure that the wall is re-built using local stone and local vernacular design. Objectives TWH OBJ 1 To use Tree Preservation Orders to protect important trees, groups of trees or woodlands, as appropriate which may be at risk or have an amenity, biodiversity or historic value during the lifetime of this plan. Pollinators Objective POLL OBJ 1 To manage and restore semi-natural habitats and their native plants on Council land in as far as is practicable and affordable. Invasive Species Policy IS POL 1 To require relevant development proposals to address the presence or absence of invasive alien species on proposed development sites and (if necessary) require applicants to prepare and submit an Invasive Species Management Plan where such a species exists to comply with the provisions of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011-2015 and the EU Regulation on Invasive Alien Species 1143/2014. Nature-Based Approaches and Green Infrastructure – Policies NBGI POL 1 To actively promote and encourage nature-based approaches and green infrastructure solutions as viable mitigation and adaptation measures to reduce GHG emissions, increase the adaptive capacity of ecosystems and optimise the multifaceted benefits through: • Conservation, promotion, and restoration of the natural environment; • Integrating an ecosystem services approach and promote healthy living environments through enhanced connection with nature and recreation/amenity; • Enhancing biodiversity in urban and rural settings; • Assist with water and flood risk management; and • Carbon storage or sequestration.
Population and Human Health	• Promotion of economic growth to encourage retention of working age population and funding of sustainable development and environmental protection and management. • Contribution towards appropriate provision of infrastructure and services to existing population and planned growth by facilitating compact development of lands (including those within and adjacent to the County's settlements) that are served (or can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop less well-served lands elsewhere in the County and beyond. • Contribution towards the protection of human health by facilitating development of lands (including those within and adjacent to the County's settlements) that have relatively low levels of environmental sensitivities and are served (or can be more	• Potential adverse effects arising from flood events. • Potential interactions with human health if effects arise from environmental vectors.	• Potential interactions with residual effects on environmental vectors – please refer to residual adverse effects under "Soil", "Water" and "Air and Climatic Factors" below.	Also refer to measures under other environmental components including Soil, Water and Air and Climatic Factors. Existing County Development Plan Major Accident Directive Policies SEV POL 1 To comply with the Seveso III Directive in reducing the risk and limiting the potential consequences of major industrial accidents. SEV POL 2 To have regard to the advice of the Health & Safety Authority when considering proposals for new SEVESO sites. SEV POL 3 To permit new Seveso development only in low risk locations within acceptable distances from vulnerable residential, retail and commercial development. Air Quality Policies AQ POL 1 To promote the preservation of best ambient air quality compatible with sustainable development in accordance with the EU Ambient Air Quality and Cleaner Air for Europe (CAFE) Directive (2008/5/0/EC) and ensure that all air emissions associated with new developments are within Environmental Quality Standards as out in the Air Quality Standards Regulations 2011 (SI No. 180 of 201) (or any updated/superseding documents). AQ POL 2 To promote air quality improvements, where practicable, through a shift to more sustainable modes of transport, reduced use of fossil fuels and a resulting reduction in carbon dioxide emissions. Noise Pollution Policies NP POL 1 To support the implementation of the Noise Directive 2002/49/EC and associated Environmental Noise Regulations 2006. NP POL 2 To require industrial and warehousing development proposals to be assessed against the Noise Assessment Criteria contained in Section 13.12.2 of Chapter 13, Development Management Standards. NP POL 3 To have regard to acoustical planning in the planning process to ensure that future developments include provisions to protect the population from the effects of environmental noise in the interests of residential amenity and public health. NP POL 4 Development proposals should identify and implement noise mitigation measures, where warranted, for development proposed in the vicinity of existing or proposed national roads. The costs of implementing mitigation measures shall be borne by the developer, as the Authority will not be responsible for the provision of additional noise mitigation. Noise Pollution Objective NP OBJ 1 To implement the actions contained in the Leitrim Noise Plan 2018-2023 (or any replacement Plan) which seeks to address environmental noise from major roads in the county and which endeavours to maintain satisfactory noise environments where they exist.

	easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop more sensitive, less well-serviced lands elsewhere in the County and beyond. Contributes towards protection of human health as a result of contributing towards the protection of natural capital including environmental vectors, such as air and water.			
Soil	- Contribution towards the protection of soils (including those used for agriculture) and designated sites of geological heritage by facilitating development of lands (including those within and adjacent to the County's settlements) that have relatively low levels of environmental sensitivities and are served (or can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop more sensitive, less well-serviced lands elsewhere in the County and beyond. - Contribution towards the protection of the environment from contamination by requiring the highest standards of remediation and, where appropriate, consultations with the EPA and other relevant bodies in order to resolve any instances of environmental pollution created by contaminated land.	- Potential adverse effects on the hydrogeological and ecological function of the soil resource, including as a result of development on contaminated lands. - Potential for riverbank and coastal erosion.	- Loss of an extent of soil function arising from the replacement of semi-natural land covers with artificial surfaces. - Riverbank and coastal erosion will continue to occur naturally over time and is likely to be enhanced by climate change.	Also refer to measures under other environmental components including Water. Existing County Development Plan WQ POL 10 To assess proposals for development in terms of their impact on human health to include, inter alia, the potential impact on existing adjacent developments, on existing land uses and / or the surrounding landscape. Where proposed developments would be likely to have a significant adverse effect on the amenities of the area through pollution by noise, fumes, odours, dust, grit or vibration, or cause pollution of air, water and/or soil, mitigation measures shall be introduced in order to eliminate adverse environmental impacts or reduce them to an acceptable operating level. WQ POL 11 Where brownfield redevelopment is proposed, adequate and appropriate investigations shall be carried out into the nature and extent of any soil and groundwater contamination and the risks associated with site development work. WE POL 2 To ensure that the assessment of wind energy development proposals will have regard to the following: - sensitivities of the county's landscapes; - visual impact on protected views, prospects, designated landscapes, as well as local visual impacts; - impacts on nature conservation designations, archaeological areas, county geological sites, historic structures, public rights of way and walking routes; - local environmental impacts, including those on residential properties, such as noise and shadow flicker; - visual and environmental impacts of associated development, such as access roads, plant and grid connections from the proposed wind farm to the electricity transmission network; - scale, size and layout of the project and any cumulative effects due to other projects; - the impact of the proposed development on protected bird and mammal species. Peatlands Policies PEAT POL 1 To conserve peatlands and protect peatland landscapes within the County. PEAT POL 2 To seek hydrological reports for significant developments within and close to peatlands, to assess potential impacts on the integrity of the peatland ecosystems. Areas of Geological Interest Policies AGI POL 1 To recognise the need to identify sites of geological interest in the County and to protect these sites in the interest of protecting our geological heritage. AGI POL 2 To protect County Geological Sites from inappropriate development, as outlined in Appendix XII of this Plan. Aggregate Resources AGG RES POL 8: To ensure that the extraction of minerals and aggregates protects to the maximum practicable extent the visual quality of the receiving landscape and do not adversely affect the environment or adjoining existing land uses. AGG RES POL 9: The use of the following chemicals as a processing agent shall not be permitted as part of any proposed processing operation located above or adjacent to surface or ground waters, or which could potentially impact such waters regardless of their location - mercury, cyanide or cyanide compounds, breakdown products of cyanide, or sulfuric acid. These present an unreasonable risk of environmental harm due to the toxicity of such chemicals and their demonstrated potential to cause damage to the environment.
Water	Contribution towards the protection of water by facilitating development of lands (including those within and adjacent to the County's settlements) that have relatively low	Potential adverse effects upon the status of water bodies and entries to the WFD Register of Protected Areas	Any increased loadings as a result of development to comply with the River Basin Management Plan.	Also refer to measures under other environmental components including Soil and Material Assets. Existing County Development Plan WI POL 5 To ensure the efficient and sustainable use and development of water resources and water services infrastructure, in order to manage and conserve water resources in a manner that supports a healthy society, economic development requirements and a cleaner environment. Water abstractions should ensure appropriate levels of environmental management and protection, including ensuring compliance with the Water Framework Directive and Habitats Directive. Water Quality Policies

Screening for SEA Report

	levels of environmental sensitivities and are served (or can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop more sensitive, less well-serviced lands elsewhere in the County and beyond. - Contributions towards the protection of water resources including the status of surface and groundwaters and water-based designations. - Contribution towards flood risk management and appropriate drainage.	(ecological and human value), arising from changes in quality, flow and/or morphology. Increase in flood risk and associated effects associated with flood events.	Flood related risks remain due to uncertainty with regard to extreme weather events – however such risks will be mitigated by measures that have been integrated into the Proposed Variation.	WQ POL 1 To protect existing groundwater sources and aquifers in the county and to manage development in a manner consistent with the protection of these resources. WQ POL 2 To support the preparation of Drinking Water Protection Plans and Source Protection Plans to protect sources of public water supply, in accordance with the requirements of the Water Framework Directive and the current and future cycles of River Basin Management Plans. In this regard, the Council supports mitigation and protection measures for all protected areas, including Drinking Water Protected Areas. WQ POL 3 In conjunction with Irish Water, to have regard to the EPA 2019 publication "Drinking Water Report for Public Water Supplies 2018" (and any subsequent update) in the establishment and maintenance of water sources in the County. WQ POL 4 To ensure that the delivery and phasing of water services are subject to the required appraisal, planning and environmental assessment processes and avoid impacts on the integrity of the Natura 2000 network. WQ POL 5 To encourage the use of catchment-sensitive farming practices, in order to meet Water Framework Directive targets and to comply with the objectives of the River Basin Management Plan. WQ POL 6 To discourage the over-concentration of individual septic tanks and treatment plants in any given area to minimise the risk of groundwater pollution. WQ POL 7 To seek to protect water quality in areas of high groundwater vulnerability in the consideration of development proposals which rely on individual wastewater treatment systems and which would increase effluent loading from such systems within a concentrated area. WQ POL 8 To provide guidance and advice regarding the protection of water supply to private wells with the overall responsibility remaining with the householder. WQ POL 9 To permit new development only in instances where it has been demonstrated to the satisfaction of Irish Water that there is sufficient capacity (in compliance with the Water Framework Directive and River Basin Management Plan) for appropriate collection, treatment and disposal of waste water to cater for the anticipated loading arising from the proposed development. WQ POL 10 To assess proposals for development in terms of their impact on human health to include, inter alia, the potential impact on existing adjacent developments, on existing land uses and / or the surrounding landscape. Where proposed developments would be likely to have a significant adverse effect on the amenities of the area through pollution by noise, fumes, odours, dust, grit or vibration, or cause pollution of air, water and/or soil, mitigation measures shall be introduced in order to eliminate adverse environmental impacts or reduce them to an acceptable operating level. WQ POL 11 Where brownfield redevelopment is proposed, adequate and appropriate investigations shall be carried out into the nature and extent of any soil and groundwater contamination and the risks associated with site development work. Water Quality Objectives WQ OBJ 1 To promote public awareness of water quality issues and the measures required to protect surface water, coastal and transitional waters and groundwater bodies from inappropriate and damaging development. WQ OBJ 2 To achieve our targets of attaining and maintaining a minimum of 'good status' in all water bodies in compliance with the Water Framework Directive and to co-operate with the implementation of the National River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021, and subsequent replacement plans. This includes contributing towards the protection of blue dot catchments and drinking water resources whilst having cognisance of the EU's Common Implementation Strategy Guidance Documents No. 20 and 36 which provide guidance on exemptions to the environmental objectives of the Water Framework Directive. WQ OBJ 3 To implement the measures of the River Basin Management Plan, including continuing to work with communities thought the Local Authority Waters Programme to restore and improve water quality in the identified areas of action. WQ OBJ 4 To ensure that development will not have an unacceptable adverse impact on water quality including surface water, ground water, designated source protection areas, river corridors and associated wetlands. WQ OBJ 5 To request the Geological Survey of Ireland to complete a Groundwater Protection Scheme for County Leitrim to assist in decision making by the Local Authority on the location, nature and control of developments and activities in order to protect groundwater. WQ OBJ 6 To promote the sustainable use of water and water conservation measures in existing and new development within the County and encourage demand management measures among all water users. Flood Risk Management Policies FRM POL 1 To adopt a comprehensive risk-based planning approach to flood management to prevent or minimise future flood risk. In accordance with the Planning System and Flood Risk Management – Guidelines for Planning Authorities, the avoidance of development in areas where flood risk has been identified shall be the primary response. FRM POL 2 To ensure that a flood risk assessment is carried out for any development proposal, in accordance with the Planning System and Flood Risk Management (DoEHLG/OPW 2009) and Circular PL2/2014. This assessment shall be appropriate to the scale and nature of risk to the potential development. FRM POL 3 To consult with the OPW in relation to proposed developments in the vicinity of drainage channels and rivers for which the OPW are responsible, and to retain a strip on either side of such channels where required, to facilitate maintenance access thereto. In addition, to promote the sustainable management and uses of water bodies and avoid culverting or realignment of these features. FRM POL 4 To protect and enhance the County's floodplains and wetlands as 'green infrastructure' which provides space for storage and conveyance of floodwater, enabling flood risk to be more effectively managed and reducing the need to provide flood defences in the future, subject to normal planning and environmental criteria. FRM POL 5 To protect the integrity of any formal flood risk management infrastructure, thereby ensuring that any new development does not negatively impact any existing defense infrastructure or compromise any proposed new defense infrastructure.
--	---	---	---	---

Screening for SEA Report

				FRM POL 6 To ensure that where flood risk management works take place that the natural, cultural and built heritage, rivers, streams and watercourses are protected and enhanced to the maximum extent possible. FRM POL 7 To ensure each flood risk management activity is examined to determine actions required to embed and provide for effective climate change adaptation as set out in the OPW Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Plan Flood Risk Management applicable at the time. FRM POL 8 To consult, where necessary, with Inland Fisheries Ireland, the National Parks and Wildlife Service and other relevant agencies in the provision of flood alleviation measures in the County. FRM POL 9 To ensure that in assessing applications for developments, that consideration is had to the impact on the quality of surface waters having regard to targets and measures set out in the River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018-2021 and any subsequent local or regional plans. FRM POL 10 Development proposals will need to be accompanied by a Development Management Justification Test when required by the Guidelines. Where only a small proportion of a site is at risk of flooding, the sequential approach shall be applied in site planning, in order to seek to ensure that no encroachment onto or loss of the flood plain occurs and/or that only water compatible development such as 'Open Space' would be permitted for the lands which are identified as being at risk of flooding within that site. FRM POL 11 To require proposals for development to comply with requirements of the Planning System and Flood Risk Assessment Guidelines including providing detailed design specifications as may be required to facilitate the impact of development. a) Extensions of existing uses or minor development within flood risk areas shall not: obstruct important flow paths; introduce a number of people into flood risk areas; entail the storage of hazardous substances; have adverse impacts or impede access to a watercourse, floodplain or flood protection and management facilities; or increase the risk of flooding elsewhere. b) Applications for development within Flood Zones A or B, and on lands subject to the mid-range future scenario floods extents, as published by the Office of Public Works, shall be subject to site specific flood risk assessment. Such assessments shall consider climate change impacts and adaptation measures and shall provide details of structural and non-structural flood risk management measures, to include, but not be limited to specifications of the following: Floor Levels In areas of limited flood depth, the specification of the threshold and floor levels of new structures shall be raised above expected flood levels to reduce the risk of flood losses to a building, by raising floor heights within the building structure using a suspended floor arrangement or raised internal concrete platforms. When designing an extension or modification to an existing building, an appropriate flood risk reduction measure shall be specified to ensure the threshold levels into the building are above the design flood level. However, care must also be taken to ensure access for all is provided in compliance with Part M of the Building Regulations. Where threshold levels cannot be raised to the street for streetscape, conservation or other reasons, the design shall specify a mixing of uses vertically in buildings - with less vulnerable uses located at ground floor level, along with other measures for dealing with residual flood risk. Internal Layout Internal layout of internal space shall be designed and specified to reduce the impact of flooding [for example, living accommodation, essential services, storage space for provisions and equipment shall be designed to be located above the predicted flood level]. In addition, designs and specifications shall ensure that, wherever reasonably practicable, the siting of living accommodation (particularly sleeping areas) shall be above flood level. With the exception of single storey extensions to existing properties, new single storey accommodation shall not be deemed appropriate where predicted flood levels are above design floor levels. In all cases, specifications for safe access, refuge and evacuation shall be incorporated into the design of the development. Flood-Resistant Construction Developments in flood vulnerable zones shall specify the use of flood-resistant construction aimed at preventing water from entering buildings - to mitigate the damage floodwater caused to buildings. Developments shall specify the use of flood resistant construction prepared using specialist technical input to the design and specification of the external building envelope – with measures to resist hydrostatic pressure (commonly referred to as “tanking”) specified for the outside of the building fabric. The design of the flood resistant construction shall specify the need to protect the main entry points for floodwater into buildings - including doors and windows (including gaps in sealant around frames), vents, air-bricks and gaps around conduits or pipes passing through external building fabric. The design of the flood resistant construction shall also specify the need to protect against flood water entry through sanitary appliances as a result of backflow through the drainage system. Flood-Resilient Construction Developments in flood vulnerable zones that are at risk of occasional inundation shall incorporate design and specification for flood resilient construction which accepts that floodwater will enter buildings and provides for this in the design and specification of internal building services and finishes. These measures limit damage caused by floodwater and allow relatively quick recovery. This can be achieved by specifying wall and floor materials such as ceramic tiling that can be cleaned and dried relatively easily, provided that the substrate materials (e.g. blockwork) are also resilient. Electrics, appliances and kitchen fittings shall also be specified to be raised above floor level, and one-way valves shall be incorporated into drainage pipes.
--	--	--	--	--

Screening for SEA Report

				Emergency Response Planning In addition to considering physical design issues for developments in flood vulnerable zones, the developer shall specify that the planning of new development also takes account of the need for effective emergency response planning for flood events in areas of new development. Applications for developments in flood vulnerable zones shall provide details that the following measures will be put in place and maintained: • Provision of flood warnings, evacuation plans and ensuring public awareness of flood risks to people where they live and work; • Coordination of responses and discussion with relevant emergency services i.e. Local Authorities, Fire and Rescue, Civil Defence and An Garda Síochána through the SFRA; and • Awareness of risks and evacuation procedures and the need for family flood plans. Access and Egress During Flood Events Applications for developments in flood vulnerable zones shall include details of arrangements for access and egress during flood events. Such details shall specify that: • flood escape routes have been kept to publicly accessible land; • such routes will have signage and other flood awareness measures in place, to inform local communities what to do in case of flooding; • this information will be provided in a welcome pack to new occupants. Further Information Further and more detailed guidance and advice can be found at http://www.flooding.ie and in the Building Regulations. c) In Flood Zone C, where the probability of flooding is low (less than 0.1%, Flood Zone C), site-specific Flood Risk Assessment may be required and the developer should satisfy themselves that the probability of flooding is appropriate to the development being proposed. The County Development Plan SFRA datasets and the most up to date information on flood risk, including that relating to climate scenarios, should be consulted by prospective applicants for developments in this regard and will be made available to lower-tier Development Management processes in the Council. FRM POL 12 To require that Strategic Flood Risk Assessments and site-specific Flood Risk Assessments shall provide information on the implications of climate change with regard to flood risk in relevant locations. The 2009 OPW Draft Guidance on Assessment of Potential Future Scenarios for Flood Risk Management (or any superseding document) shall be consulted with to this effect. FRM POL 13 To require the submission of site-specific Flood Risk Assessments for developments undertaken within Flood Zones A & B and on lands subject to the mid-range future scenario floods extents, as published by the Office of Public Works. These Flood Risk Assessments shall consider climate change impacts and adaptation measures including details of structural and non-structural flood risk management measures, such as those relating to floor levels, internal layout, flood-resistant construction, flood-resilient construction, emergency response planning and access and egress during flood events. FRM POL 14 To require the undertaking of site-specific flood risk assessments for applications for development on land identified as benefitting land which may be prone to flooding FRM POL 15 To ensure that new developments proposed in Arterial Drainage Schemes and Drainage Districts do not result in a significant negative impact on the integrity, function and management of these areas. FRM POL 16 Any potential future variations to and review of the Plan shall consider, as appropriate any new and/or emerging data relating to flood risk. Objectives FRM OBJ 1 To implement and comply fully with the recommendations of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment prepared as part of the Leitrim County Development Plan 2023-2029. FRM OBJ 2 To implement in conjunction with the Office of Public Works the recommendations contained in the Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMP's), including planned investment measures for managing and reducing flood risk, subject to obtaining the necessary planning consent and undertaking the required environmental assessments. Storm Water Management Policies SWM POL 1 To implement Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) in developments to encourage a more sustainable approach to storm water management. SWM POL 2 To resist the discharge of additional surface water to combined sewers and promote Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) and solutions to maximise the capacity of towns with combined drainage systems, where practicable. SWM POL 3 To require that new developments are adequately serviced with surface water drainage infrastructure which meets the requirements of the Water Framework Directive, associated River Basin Management Plans and CFRAM Management Plans. SWM POL 4 To limit the rate of surface water run off to pre development levels for all green-field developments. SWM POL 5 In the case of one-off rural dwellings, surface water shall be disposed of, in its entirety within the curtilage of the development site by way of suitably sized soak holes. Storm Water Management Objectives SWM OBJ 1 To require the use of SuDS to minimise and limit the extent of hard surfacing and paving and require the use of sustainable drainage techniques where appropriate, for new development or for extensions to existing developments, in order to reduce the potential impact of existing and predicted flooding risks. SWM OBJ 2 To encourage the use of Green Roof technology particularly on apartment, commercial, leisure and educational buildings.
--	--	--	--	--

				Proposed Variation No. 1 Insertion of text into into Section 9.8 "Flood Risk Management" of the Plan: "Uses on lands associated with mid-range and high-end future climate scenario risk areas on Variation No. 1 sites within Ballinamore, Dromod, Manorhamilton and Mohill as identified in Appendix I of the SFRA Addendum shall be limited to less vulnerable or water compatible uses. This limitation shall take primacy over any other related land use zoning provision."
Air and Climatic Factors	- Contribution towards climate mitigation and adaptation by facilitating compact development of lands (including those within and adjacent to the County's settlements) that are served (or can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop less well-served lands elsewhere in the County and beyond. - In combination with other plans, programmes etc., contribution towards the objectives of the wide policy framework relating to climate mitigation and adaptation, and associated contribution towards maintaining and improving air quality and managing noise levels, including through measures relating to: - Sustainable compact growth; - Sustainable mobility, including walking, cycling and public transport; - Drainage, flood risk management and resilience; - Sectors agriculture, forestry, energy and buildings; and - Sustainable design, energy efficiency and green infrastructure.	- Potential conflict between development under the Plan as varied and aiming to reduce carbon emissions in line with local, national and European environmental objectives. - Potential conflicts between transport emissions, including those from cars, and air quality. - Potential conflicts between increased frequency of noise emissions and protection of sensitive receptors. - Potential conflicts with climate adaptation measures including those relating to flood risk management.	- An extent of travel related greenhouse gas and other emissions to air. This has been mitigated by provisions that have been integrated into the Proposed Variation, including those relating to sustainable compact growth and sustainable mobility. - Interactions between noise emissions and sensitive receptors. Various provisions have been integrated into the Proposed Variation to ensure that noise levels at sensitive receptors will be minimised.	Also refer to Plan's various sustainable transport provisions and detailed measures for Climate Action. Existing County Development Plan Air Quality Policies AQ POL 1 To promote the preservation of best ambient air quality compatible with sustainable development in accordance with the EU Ambient Air Quality and Cleaner Air for Europe (CAFE) Directive (2008/5/0/EC) and ensure that all air emissions associated with new developments are within Environmental Quality Standards as out in the Air Quality Standards Regulations 2011 (SI No. 180 of 2011) (or any updated/superseding documents). AQ POL 2 To promote air quality improvements, where practicable, through a shift to more sustainable modes of transport, reduced use of fossil fuels and a resulting reduction in carbon dioxide emissions. Noise Pollution Policies NP POL 1 To support the implementation of the Noise Directive 2002/49/EC and associated Environmental Noise Regulations 2006. NP POL 2 To require industrial and warehousing development proposals to be assessed against the Noise Assessment Criteria contained in Section 13.12.2 of Chapter 13, Development Management Standards. NP POL 3 To have regard to acoustical planning in the planning process to ensure that future developments include provisions to protect the population from the effects of environmental noise in the interests of residential amenity and public health. NP POL 4 Development proposals should identify and implement noise mitigation measures, where warranted, for development proposed in the vicinity of existing or proposed national roads. The costs of implementing mitigation measures shall be borne by the developer, as the Authority will not be responsible for the provision of additional noise mitigation. Noise Pollution Objective NP OBJ 1 To implement the actions contained in the Leitrim Noise Plan 2018-2023 (or any replacement Plan) which seeks to address environmental noise from major roads in the county and which endeavours to maintain satisfactory noise environments where they exist. Climate Action – Overarching Policies CA POL 1 To support the implementation of the European, national, regional and local objectives for climate adaptation and mitigation detailed in the EU Green Deal, Programme for Government 2020, Climate Action Plan 2019, National Climate Change Adaptation Framework 2018, Climate Adaptation Strategy, any Regional Decarbonisation Plan, relevant sectoral adaptation plans prepared to comply with the requirements of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015, the Leitrim Climate Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024, or any replacement plans or strategies. CA POL 2 To support the transition of the County towards a competitive, low carbon, climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable economy by 2050 by providing for consolidated development forms which facilitate the reduction of energy demand and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and which supports sustainable travel patterns in line with the Core Strategy. CA POL 3 To co-operate with and support the role of the Eastern and Midlands Climate Action Regional Office (CARO). CA POL 4 To provide for a reduction in energy demand and greenhouse gas emissions by providing for consolidated development forms in settlements in Co. Leitrim. CA POL 5 To promote and encourage positive community and / co-operative led climate action initiatives and projects that seek to reduce emissions, improve energy efficiency, enhance green infrastructure and encourage awareness on climate change issues. CA POL 6 To encourage innovation and facilitate the development of pilot schemes that support climate change mitigation and adaptation measures. Climate Action – Overarching Objectives CA OBJ 1 To work in collaboration with the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) and relevant stakeholders to deliver and support a number of Sustainable Energy Communities (SECs) throughout the county. CA OBJ 2 To develop a Decarbonisation Zone in Carrick on Shannon in accordance with Action 165 of the Climate Action Plan 2019. (see also CS OBJ 10 for further detail in this regard). CA OBJ 3 To review the outcomes of the forthcoming update to the Development Plan Guidelines when finalised and to consider reasonable steps to align with the approach to climate change advocated in the guidelines over the lifetime of the Plan. CA OBJ 4 To support the development of both climate mitigation and climate adaptation initiatives and seek funding for the implementation of these initiatives from available sources including the Climate Action Fund administered by the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC).
Material Assets	Contribution towards appropriate provision of infrastructure and services to existing population and planned growth by facilitating compact development of lands (including those	Failure to provide adequate and appropriate waste water treatment (water services infrastructure and capacity ensures	Exceedance of capacity in critical infrastructure risks remain, including due to uncertainty with regard to climate – however, such risks will be	Also refer to measures under other environmental components including Population and Human Health, Cultural Heritage, Soil, Water, Air, various Land Use and Phasing provisions. Existing County Development Plan Water Infrastructure Policies WI POL 1 To collaborate with Irish Water in the preparation and prioritisation of their Investment Plans to ensure that the required piped water services capacity and infrastructure in the County is provided in a timely manner to facilitate future growth in accordance with the Core Strategy. WI POL 2 To prohibit the discharge of additional surface water to combined (foul and surface water) sewers in order to maximise the capacity of existing collection systems for foul water.

Screening for SEA Report

	within and adjacent to the County's settlements) that are served (or can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop less well-served lands elsewhere in the County and beyond. • Contribution towards compliance with national and regional water services and waste management policies. • Contribution towards increase in renewable energy use by facilitating renewable energy and electricity transmission infrastructure developments. • Contribution towards limits in increases in energy demand from the transport sector by facilitating sustainable compact growth. • Contribution towards reductions in average energy consumption per capita including promoting sustainable compact growth, sustainable mobility, sustainable design and energy efficiency.	the mitigation of potential conflicts). • Failure to adequately treat surface water run-off that is discharged to water bodies (water services infrastructure and capacity ensures the mitigation of potential conflicts). • Failure to comply with drinking water regulations and serve new development with adequate drinking water services (water infrastructure and capacity ensures the mitigation of potential conflicts). • Increases in waste levels. • Potential impacts upon public assets and infrastructure. • Interactions between agriculture and soil, water, biodiversity and human health - including phosphorous and nitrogen deposition as a result of agricultural activities and the production of secondary inorganic particulate matter. • Risk of aggregate potential sterilisation.	mitigated by: measures, including those requiring the timely provision of critical infrastructure, and compliance with the Water Framework Directive and associated River Basin Management Plan. • Residual wastes to be disposed of in line with higher-level waste management policies. • Any impacts upon public assets and infrastructure to comply with statutory planning/consent-granting framework.	WI POL 3 To support Irish Water in the promotion of effective management of trade discharges to sewers in order to maximise the capacity of existing sewer networks and minimise detrimental impacts on wastewater treatment works. WI POL 4 To ensure that all new developments connect to the public wastewater infrastructure, where available, and to encourage existing developments that are in close proximity to a public sewer to connect to that sewer subject to obtaining a connection agreement with Irish Water. WI POL 5 To ensure the efficient and sustainable use and development of water resources and water services infrastructure, in order to manage and conserve water resources in a manner that supports a healthy society, economic development requirements and a cleaner environment. Water abstractions should ensure appropriate levels of environmental management and protection, including ensuring compliance with the Water Framework Directive and Habitats Directive. WI POL 6 To ensure that adequate water services will be available to service development and that existing water services are not negatively impacted upon prior to making a decision to grant planning permission. WI POL 7 To require all new development to provide a separate foul and surface water drainage system and to incorporate sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate in new development and the public realm. WI POL 8 To require developments to connect to public water supplies where available. Water Infrastructure Objectives WI OBJ 1 To work closely with Irish Water to identify and facilitate the timely delivery of the water services infrastructure required to realize the development objectives of this plan. WI OBJ 2 To pursue and support Irish Water in the upgrade of the Carrick-on-Shannon Water Treatment Plant as a project necessary to deliver the growth model outlined in the Core Strategy of the new County Development Plan. WI OBJ 3 To protect both ground and surface water resources including taking account of the impacts of climate change, and to support Irish Water in the development and implementation of Drinking Water Safety Plans and the National Water Resources Plan. WI OBJ 4 To promote water conservation and demand management measures among all water users, and to support Irish Water in implementing water conservation measures such as leakage reduction and network improvements. WI OBJ 5 To ensure that adequate storm water infrastructure is provided in order to accommodate the planned levels of growth within the plan area and to ensure that appropriate flood management measures are implemented to protect property and infrastructure. WI OBJ 6 To support the servicing of rural villages and graigs to include the development of serviced sites as an alternative to one-off housing in the countryside. WI OBJ 7 To facilitate the provision of appropriate sites for required water services infrastructure. WI OBJ 8 To proactively implement the Rural Water Programme and to transfer / transition rural schemes to Irish Water where possible and appropriate. Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Policies WWT POL 1 To ensure that private wastewater treatment plants, where permitted, are operated in compliance with the EPA Code of Practice for Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems (Population Equivalent ≤ 10) (March 2021), as may be amended. WWT POL 2 To promote the discontinuation of use of septic tanks / individual wastewater treatment systems and the connection of houses to piped foul sewers in all cases where this is feasible (subject to connection agreements with Irish Water) and require that all new developments utilise and connect to the piped wastewater infrastructure where available. WWT POL 3 The Planning Authority will consider where appropriate proposals for private communal sewerage schemes, subject to the protection of the receiving environment, in the following cases: 1. In areas where Irish Water do not propose to carry out a piped wastewater collection and treatment scheme. 2. In areas where Irish Water intend at a later stage to provide a piped wastewater collection and treatment scheme. In the latter case, schemes should be so designed as to be capable of being connected to the Irish Water scheme in due course. Such schemes shall be purpose designed, appropriate in scale, specification and capacity, designed to the needs of users and shall be subject to legally binding maintenance and bonding arrangements agreed with the County Council. Such proposals shall adhere to the EPA Code of Practice for Small Communities. Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Objective WWT OBJ 1 To continue to research and trial options in conjunction with academic partners and other stakeholders to provide an acceptable waste water treatment system solution to the poor percolation characteristics of sub soils which affect the majority of the county that would be suitable, affordable and not represent a risk of pollution to ground or surface waters or to public health. Storm Water Management Objectives SWM OBJ 1To require the use of SuDS to minimise and limit the extent of hard surfacing and paving and require the use of sustainable drainage techniques where appropriate, for new development or for extensions to existing developments, in order to reduce the potential impact of existing and predicted flooding risks. SWM OBJ 2To encourage the use of Green Roof technology particularly on apartment, commercial, leisure and educational buildings. Waste Management Policies WM POL 1 To support the implementation of the Connacht Ulster Regional Waste Management Plan 2015-2021(as amended) or any replacement plan with particular emphasis on encouraging reuse, recycling and disposal of residual waste. WM POL 2 To encourage and support waste prevention, minimisation, reuse, recycling and recovery as methods of managing waste. WM POL 3 To facilitate the transition from a waste management economy to a green circular economy to increase the value recovery and recirculation of resources.
--	--	---	---	--

Screening for SEA Report

			WM POL 4 To encourage and support the provision of separate collection of waste in accordance with the requirements of the Waste Management (Food Waste) Regulations 2009, the Waste Framework Directive Regulations, 2011 and other relevant legislation. WM POL 5 To promote and facilitate communities to become involved in environmental awareness activities and community based recycling initiatives or environmental management initiatives that will lead to local sustainable waste management practices. WM POL 6 To encourage the development of waste infrastructure and associated developments in appropriate locations, as deemed necessary in accordance with the requirements of the Connacht Ulster Regional Waste Management Plan 2015-2021(as amended) or any replacement plan. WM POL 7 To require the provision of bring banks, bottle banks or other appropriate recycling facilities as part of the overall development in the case of new or extended commercial, employment, educational, recreational facilities and managed residential developments (in excess of 20 no. residential units). WM POL 8 To encourage the recycling of construction and demolition waste and the reuse of aggregate and other materials in future construction projects. WM POL 9 To facilitate high quality sustainable waste recovery and disposal infrastructure / technology including composting (anaerobic digester) plants for managing organic solid waste, at appropriate locations, within the County subject to the protection of the amenities of the surrounding environment including European Sites, and in keeping with the EU waste hierarchy. Waste Management Objectives WM OBJ 1 To continue to maintain the level of provision of existing civic amenity sites in the County in accordance with Waste Management Plan 2015 – 2021. WM OBJ 2 To ensure that the Council fulfils its duties under the Waste Management (Certification of Historic Unlicensed Waste Disposal and Recovery Activity) Regulations 2008 (S.I. No 524 of 2008), including those in relation to the identification and registration of closed landfills. WM OBJ 3 To identify suitable sites for additional recycling centres and bring bank facilities subject to the availability of appropriate funding and infrastructure, through the public or private sector, as appropriate. WM OBJ 4 To facilitate the provision of appropriate waste recovery and disposal facilities in accordance with the principles set out in the appropriate Waste Management Plan applicable from time to time made in accordance with the Waste Management Act 1996 (as amended). WM OBJ 5 To continue to reduce incidents of littering through the continued implementation and updating of the Council's Litter Management Plan. WM OBJ 6 To continue to support and work with local Tidy Towns groups in the maintenance and conservation of our towns and villages throughout the county. Energy Networks Infrastructure Policies ENI POL 1 To support the development of a safe, secure and reliable electricity network which assists EirGrid in their grid development programme, as set out in the Grid Development Strategy – Your Grid, Your Tomorrow, 2017 and Tomorrow's Energy Scenarios 2017: Planning our Energy Future, 2017. ENI POL 2 To co-operate and liaise with statutory and other energy providers in relation to power generation in order to ensure that the energy needs of future population and economic expansion within designated growth areas and across the wider region can be delivered in a sustainable and timely manner, which minimizes impacts on environmental sensitive and high visual quality areas and that capacity is available at local and regional scale to meet future needs. ENI POL 3 To require comprehensive studies to be undertaken for all technical and environmental considerations, to inform the assessment of proposed transmission routes brought forward for planning consent. ENI POL 3 To support the renewal, reinforcement and strengthening of the electricity transmission network with particular reference to the regionally important projects such as Renewable Integration Development Project. ENI POL 4 To support the necessary integration of the transmission network requirements to allow linkages with renewable energy proposals at all levels to the electricity transmission grid in a sustainable and timely manner. ENI POL 6 To support the build-out of the gas supply network into Co. Leitrim. Energy Networks Infrastructure Objective ENI OBJ 1 To safeguard existing strategic energy corridors from encroachment by other developments that could compromise the delivery of energy networks. Information Communications and Technology Policy DS POL 1 To support the implementation and roll out of action contained in the Digital Strategy for Leitrim 2021-2023 or any replacement Strategy. Broadband Policies BR POL 1 To support and facilitate the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment and public and private agencies as appropriate, in improving high quality broadband infrastructure throughout the county and supporting the roll out of the National Broadband Plan. BR POL 2 To support and facilitate the delivery of the National Broadband Plan and Leitrim County Councils Digital Strategy as a means of developing further opportunities for enterprise, employment, education, innovation and skills development, for those who live and work in rural areas throughout Leitrim, where appropriate. BR POL 3 To promote the potential of the Metropolitan Area Network fibre optic cable managed by eNET. Telecommunications Policies TEL POL 1 To promote and facilitate the provision of a high quality telecommunications infrastructure network throughout the county having regard to the requirements of the "Telecommunications Antennae and Support Structures – Guidelines for Planning Authorities".
--	--	--	--

Screening for SEA Report

				TEL POL 2 To support service providers in the development of key telecommunications infrastructure. TEL POL 3 To support the delivery of high capacity Information Communications Technology Infrastructure, broadband connectivity and digital broadcasting, throughout the county, in order to ensure economic competitiveness and in enabling more flexible work practices. TEL POL 4 To encourage co-location of antennae on existing telecommunications structures. The shared use of existing structures will be required where the numbers of masts located in any single area is considered to have an excessive concentration. TEL POL 5 To ensure that telecommunications structures are located to minimise and /or mitigate any adverse impacts on communities, residential properties, schools and the built or natural environment. Telecommunications Objectives TEL OBJ 1 To ensure that all areas of the county have adequate mobile communication coverage and in particular to require service providers to provide services in areas where existing coverage is poor. Proposed Variation No. 1 Insertion of Note F to Section 2.7 "Housing Yield from Proposed Zoned Lands": "F. The Capacity Registers published by Uisce Éireann in August 2025 outline the capacity for wastewater treatment and water supply in each of the settlements in the county. Of the settlements with residential and mixed use land use zoning objectives, Carrigallen and Leitrim Village have been identified as having no capacity available (Red) in terms of wastewater treatment. As a result, it is unlikely that these allocated 91 no. units will come forward for development within the remaining period of the plan unless on the basis of permitted developer provided infrastructure."
Cultural Heritage	- Contributes towards protection of cultural heritage elsewhere by facilitating compact development. - Contributes towards protection of cultural heritage, by facilitating brownfield development and regeneration.	Potential effects on protected and unknown archaeology⁶ and protected architecture⁷ arising from construction and operation activities.	Potential effects on known architectural and archaeological heritage and unknown archaeology however, these will occur in compliance with legislation.	Existing County Development Plan Protection of the Built Environment Policies BH POL 1 To protect all structures in the Record of Protected Structures (Volume IV of this Plan). BH POL 2 To promote best conservation principles and practice with regard to protecting Leitrim's considerable architectural heritage. BH POL 3 To encourage the sympathetic retention, reuse and rehabilitation of Protected Structures and their setting. BH POL 4 To ensure that proposed development within the curtilage or attendant grounds of a Protected Structure respects the Protected Structure and its setting. BH POL 5 To have regard to the Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines for Planning Authorities (October 2011) or replacement Section 28 Guidelines as may be issued by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage when assessing proposals for development affecting a protected structure and buildings listed in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage. BH POL 6 To require the preparation of an Architectural Impact Assessment undertaken by an architect or other suitably qualified professional with conservation expertise, where appropriate, for developments which include or relate to a Protected Structure or their curtilage and attendant grounds. BH POL 7 To promote the principles of best practice in conservation in terms of use of appropriate materials, repair techniques, and thermal upgrades by adhering to the guidelines as set out in Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht's Advice Series publications or their replacement. BH POL 8 To promote awareness and the appropriate adaptation of the county's architectural and archaeological heritage to deal with the effects of climate change. Protection of the Built Environment Objectives BH OBJ 1 To seek the protection of all structures within the County that are of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest. BH OBJ 2 To maximise funding opportunities for the conservation and restoration of Protected Structures. BH OBJ 3 To administer grant schemes which provide funding opportunities for the conservation and restoration of Protected Structures. BH OBJ 4 To support and implement the actions listed in the County Heritage Plan 2020 – 2025, and subsequent heritage plans, during the lifetime of this plan, subject to the availability of specific funding and resources. BH OBJ 5 To seek the appointment of a Conservation Officer to improve the level of expertise available to the Council and to support the protection and conservation of the rich built and cultural heritage within the County. However the Council will seek to develop in-house expertise in the interim in the absence of this appointment. Architectural Conservation Areas Policies ACA POL 1 To ensure the preservation of the special character of each Architectural Conservation Area listed in this Plan (See Table 6) by exercising specific design control with particular regard to building scale, proportions, historical plot sizes, building lines, height, general land use, fenestration, signage, and other appendages such as electrical wiring, building materials, historic street furniture, paving and shopfronts. ACA POL 2 To have regard to the Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines for Planning Authorities (October 2011) or replacement Section 28 Guidelines as may be issued by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage when assessing proposals for development affecting the character of an Architectural Conservation Area. ACA POL 3 To ensure the retention, repair and the regular maintenance, rather than replacement, of original / early features in buildings which contribute to the character of an Architectural Conservation Area such as chimney stacks, roof coverings, roof profiles, external wall treatments,

⁶ Archaeological heritage encompasses designated and unknown archaeological heritage including entries to the Record of Monuments and Places, underwater archaeology, entries to the Northern Ireland Sites and Monuments Record and Northern Ireland Areas of Significant Archaeological Interest and Archaeological Potential. Also encompassed are intervisibility and interrelationships between archaeological heritage within the wider landscape, including cross-border intervisibility and interrelationships.

⁷ Architectural heritage encompasses that which is designated or included within the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH), NIAH Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes, Records of Protected Structures and Northern Ireland's Listed Buildings and Northern Ireland's Historic Parks, Gardens and Demesnes. Also encompassed are intervisibility and interrelationships between architectural heritage within the wider landscape, including cross-border intervisibility and interrelationships.

Screening for SEA Report

				doors and windows, shopfronts and pub fronts, while ensuring appropriate materials and repair techniques are used when repairs are being carried out. ACA POL 4 To ensure that inappropriate materials for windows, doors and rainwater goods constructed in aluminium or uPVC are not introduced to buildings within Architectural Conservation Areas. ACA POL 5 To encourage high quality, contemporary design and materials where appropriate when new buildings are being introduced into an Architectural Conservation Area and the retention of the historic scale and plot size. Such buildings should contribute to the visual enhancement of the area and respect the character of the Architectural Conservation Area as set out in the statement of character (when prepared). ACA POL 6 To ensure that new fascia boards inserted in the shopfront entablature are seamless without visible vertical joints or fixing materials. Hand painted fascia are encouraged and will be favoured over glossy, reflective signage. ACA POL 7 To retain historic items of street furniture where they contribute to the character of the ACA, such as, post boxes, benchmarks, gates, plaques, milestones, railings, etc., ACA POL 8 To facilitate the removal of overhead cables throughout the Architectural Conservation Areas. ACA POL 9 To ensure the embodied energy of the current building stock within Architectural Conservation Area are acknowledged when considering proposed developments, and to encourage the reuse of these building over demolition. Architectural Conservation Areas Objectives ACA OBJ 1 To prepare a statement of character for each of the listed Architectural Conservation Areas in Table 6 within 2 years of the adoption of the County Development Plan in order to identify the character that is worthy of protection for each. ACA OBJ 2 To designate additional Architectural Conservation Areas where appropriate and provide a local policy framework for the preservation of the character of these areas. Consideration will be given to Lough Rynn and Drumsna in the first instance. ACA OBJ 3 To review the County Leitrim Shopfront Guidelines within the life of the County Development Plan. Archaeological Heritage Policies ARCH POL 1 To secure the preservation (i.e. preservation in-situ or in particular circumstances where the Council is satisfied that this is not possible, preservation by record as a minimum) of all archaeological remains and sites of importance such as National Monuments, Recorded Monuments, their setting and context. ARCH POL 2 To promote public awareness of the rich archaeological heritage that exists in County Leitrim. ARCH POL 3 To protect and enhance public accessibility to the County's industrial heritage. ARCH POL 4 To protect, preserve and promote the archaeological value of underwater archaeological sites and objects in rivers, lakes, intertidal and subtidal environments. In assessing proposals for development, the Council will take account of the archaeological potential of rivers, lakes, intertidal and sub-tidal environments. Where flood relief schemes are being undertaken, the Council will have regard to the 'Archaeological Guidelines for Flood Relief Schemes' (DHLGH and OPW 2021). ARCH POL 5 To support community initiatives and projects regarding preservation, presentation, publication of and access to archaeological heritage and underwater cultural heritage, provided such are compatible with appropriate conservation policies and standards, having regard to the guidance and advice of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. Archaeological Heritage Objectives ARCH OBJ 1 To promote the County's archaeological heritage as a tourism resource, in partnership with tourism organisations and stakeholders. ARCH OBJ 2 To ensure that any development (above or below ground or underwater), within the vicinity of a site of archaeological interest or protected wreck or area of underwater archaeological heritage shall not be detrimental to the archaeological remains, character of the site or its setting. ARCH OBJ 3 To require, where appropriate, that an archaeological assessment or underwater archaeological impact assessment be carried out by a suitably qualified person prior to the commencement of any activity that may impact upon archaeological heritage, including underwater archaeological heritage. ARCH OBJ 4 To protect the zones of archaeological potential, as identified in the Record of Monuments and Places, protected reefs and underwater archaeological heritage. ARCH OBJ 5 To protect archaeological sites, protected wrecks and underwater archaeological heritage discovered since the publication of the Record of Monuments and Places, which are recorded in the Sites and Monuments Record.
Landscape	Contributes towards protection of wider landscape and landscape designations by facilitating compact development.	Occurrence of adverse visual impacts and conflicts with the protection of designations relating to the landscape.	Landscapes will change overtime as a result of natural changes in vegetation cover combined with new developments that will occur in compliance with the Development Plan's landscape protection measures.	Also refer to measures under Biodiversity and Flora and Fauna and Cultural Heritage. Existing County Development Plan Landscape Policies LCA POL 1 To conserve and enhance the high nature conservation value of the Landscape Character Areas in order to create/protect ecologically resilient and varied landscapes. LCA POL 2 To protect, enhance and contribute to the physical, visual and scenic character of County Leitrim and to preserve its unique landscape character. LCA POL 3 To ensure that landscape sensitivity and the preservation of the uniqueness of a landscape character area (where appropriate) is an important consideration in determining the appropriateness of development uses and proposals in areas of landscape sensitivity, (scenery, nature conservation or archaeology) in conjunction with the siting, design and materials proposed. LCA POL 4 To seek to ensure that local landscape features, including historic features and buildings, hedgerows, shelter belts and stone walls, are retained, protected and enhanced where appropriate, so as to preserve the local landscape and character of an area, whilst providing for future development

Screening for SEA Report

				LCA POL 5 To require landscape and visual impact assessments prepared by suitably qualified professionals be submitted with planning applications for development which may have significant impact on landscape character areas of medium or high sensitivity. Landscape Objectives LCA OBJ 1 To protect and enhance the quality, character, and distinctiveness of the physical, visual and scenic character of landscapes of the county in accordance with national policy and guidelines and the recommendations of the Leitrim Landscape Character Assessment (2020) which forms Appendix VII of this Plan. LCA OBJ 2 To ensure that the management of development will have regard to the value of the landscape, its character, importance, sensitivity and capacity to absorb change as outlined in Appendix VII of this Plan - Leitrim Landscape Character Assessment (2020) and its recommendations. Landscape Designations Policies LD POL 1 To safeguard the protected views and prospects contained in Table 11.8 and identified on Map No. 11 (Volume III - Book of Maps) from intrusive development which would interfere unduly with the character and visual amenity of the landscape. LD POL 2 To protect Areas of High Visual Amenity from inappropriate development and reinforce their character, distinctiveness and sense of place. LD POL 3 To permit development in an Area of High Visual Amenity only where the applicant has demonstrated a very high standard of site selection, site layout and design and where the Planning Authority is satisfied that the development could not be accommodated in a less-sensitive location. LD POL 4 To require that a landscape and visual impact assessment, prepared by a suitably qualified professional, be submitted with planning applications for development which may have an impact on the landscape character of the area. LD POL 5 To ensure that development proposals have regard to the Landscape Character Assessment, the value of the landscape, its character, importance, sensitivity and capacity to absorb change. LD POL 6 To protect lakeshores from inappropriate development which would detract from the natural amenity of the area. LD POL 7 To permit development in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty where the applicant can satisfy the Planning Authority that it is not practicable to develop in a less-sensitive location and where it is demonstrated that the development will not impinge in any significant way on the character, integrity or uniformity of the landscape. Landscape Designations Objectives LD OBJ 1 To protect the quality, character and distinctiveness of the landscapes of the County. LD OBJ 2 To provide and maintain facilities, including viewing areas, lay-bys, safe pedestrian access and/or car parking, and where appropriate, associated seats and signs in the immediate vicinity of views that are identified in this Plan and as funds allow. LD OBJ 3 To undertake and adopt a landscape capacity assessment of the county for commercial afforestation. LD OBJ 4 To protect Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Areas of High Visual Amenity from inappropriate forms of development.
--	--	--	--	--

2.5 Schedule 2

PART 1

1. *The characteristics of the plan having regard, in particular, to: the degree to which the plan sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources*

Proposed Variation No. 1 arises from the publication of the National Planning Framework (NPF) First Revision and the National Planning Framework Implementation: Housing Growth Requirements Guidelines for Planning Authorities issued under Section 28 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) which place a statutory obligation on Planning Authorities to ensure that the necessary planning framework is in place including sufficient residential zoned land to facilitate the achievement of housing growth requirements over the plan period.

The Proposed Variation includes amendments to the Written Statement (Volume I), Settlement Plans (Volume II) and the Book of Maps (Volume III) of the Leitrim County Development Plan 2023-2029 and the amendments are presented in Section 4.0 of this document.

The alterations propose a number of text and map-based changes to the Proposed Variation/associated documents. For further detail, the Proposed Material Alterations should be referred to.

The Leitrim County Development Plan 2023-2029 was subject to full SEA, which identified the likely significant environmental effects, if unmitigated, of implementing the Development Plan, and facilitated the integration of measures into the Development Plan to ensure the appropriate protection and management of the environment with which all lower tier plans/projects must comply. The Proposed Variation, which is being subject to full SEA, requires compliance with these measures and includes additional such measures that must be complied with.

Taking into account the measures that have been integrated into both the Proposed Variation and the existing Development Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development, any potential effects arising from most Proposed Material Alterations to Proposed Variation No. 1, would either: be present already (beneficial) and would be further contributed towards, but not to a significant extent; and/or would be mitigated so as not to be significant (adverse). However, Proposed Material Alterations 7, 8, 9, 10, 12 and 14 are identified as requiring full SEA (refer to Table 2.2) and these will be considered in a SEA Environmental Report.

Taking the above and the information provided under Sections 2.2 to 2.4 into account, arising from the degree to which Proposed Variation No. 1 (and associated Proposed Material Alterations) to the Leitrim County Development Plan 2023-2029 sets a framework for projects and other activities, most Proposed Material Alterations to the Proposed Variation would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects. However, Proposed Material Alterations 7, 8, 9, 10, 12 and 14 are identified as requiring full SEA (refer to Table 2.2) and these will be considered in a SEA Environmental Report.

2. *The characteristics of the plan having regard, in particular, to: the degree to which the plan influences other plans, including those in a hierarchy*

Variation No. 1 is proposed to the Leitrim County Development Plan 2023-2029. The Development Plan is influenced by higher-level legislation, plans and programmes and influences lower-tier plans. Any future development under the Development Plan, as varied, would have to comply with the various provisions of the existing Plan that relate to sustainable development and the protection and management of the environment – see Table 2.4.

Taking the above and the information provided under Sections 2.2 to 2.4 into account, arising from the degree to which Proposed Variation No. 1 (and associated Proposed Material Alterations) and the Leitrim County Development Plan 2023-2029 influence other plans, most Proposed Material Alterations to the Proposed Variation would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects. However, Proposed Material Alterations 7, 8, 9, 10, 12 and 14 are identified as requiring full SEA (refer to Table 2.2) and these will be considered in a SEA Environmental Report.

3. *The characteristics of the plan having regard, in particular, to: the relevance of the plan for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development*

The Leitrim County Development Plan 2023-2029 was subject to full SEA, which identified the likely significant environmental effects, if unmitigated, of implementing the Development Plan, and facilitated the integration of measures into the Development Plan to ensure the appropriate protection and management of the environment with which all lower tier plans/projects must comply. The Proposed Variation, which is being subject to full SEA, requires compliance with these measures and includes additional such measures that must be complied with.

Taking the above and the information provided under Sections 2.2 to 2.4 into account, arising from the relevance of Proposed Variation No. 1 (and associated Proposed Material Alterations) and the Leitrim County Development Plan 2023-2029 for the integration of environmental considerations, in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development, most Proposed Material Alterations to the Proposed Variation would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects. However, Proposed Material Alterations 7, 8, 9, 10, 12 and 14 are identified as requiring full SEA (refer to Table 2.2) and these will be considered in a SEA Environmental Report.

4. *The characteristics of the plan having regard, in particular, to: environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme*

Environmental problems arise where there is a conflict between current environmental conditions and legislative targets. Through its provisions relating to environmental protection and management, the Leitrim County Development Plan 2023-2029, to which the Proposed Variation and associated Proposed Material Alterations relate, contributes towards ensuring that environmental conditions do not get worse and, where possible, it contributes towards its amelioration.

Taking the above and the information provided under Sections 2.2 to 2.4 into account, arising from environmental problems relevant to Proposed Variation No. 1 (and associated Proposed Material Alterations) and associated Leitrim County Development Plan 2023-2029, most Proposed Material Alterations to the Proposed Variation would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects. However, Proposed Material Alterations 7, 8, 9, 10, 12 and 14 are identified as requiring full SEA (refer to Table 2.2) and these will be considered in a SEA Environmental Report.

5. *The characteristics of the plan having regard, in particular, to: the relevance of the plan for the implementation of European Union legislation on the environment (e.g. plans and programmes linked to waste management or water protection)*

The Leitrim County Development Plan 2023-2029 to which Proposed Variation No. 1 and associated Proposed Material Alterations relate includes various provisions that would contribute towards the implementation of European legislation on the environment. Some of these provisions are identified within Table 2.4. The Proposed Variation, which itself is being subject to full SEA, requires compliance with the measures from the existing Development Plan and includes additional such measures that must be complied with.

Taking the above and the information provided under Sections 2.2 to 2.4 into account, arising from relevance of Proposed Variation No. 1 (and associated Proposed Material Alterations) and

associated Leitrim County Development Plan 2023-2029 for the implementation of European Union legislation on the environment, most Proposed Material Alterations to the Proposed Variation would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects. However, Proposed Material Alterations 7, 8, 9, 10, 12 and 14 are identified as requiring full SEA (refer to Table 2.2) and these will be considered in a SEA Environmental Report.

PART 2

1. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects

Most Proposed Material Alterations would not necessitate SEA as they would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses under Schedule 2 Part 1 above and the information provided under Sections 2.2 to 2.4. However, Proposed Material Alterations 7, 8, 9, 10, 12 and 14 are identified as requiring full SEA (refer to Table 2.2) and these will be considered in a SEA Environmental Report.

2. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the cumulative nature of the effects

Most Proposed Material Alterations would not necessitate SEA as they would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses under Schedule 2 Part 1 above and the information provided under Sections 2.2 to 2.4. However, Proposed Material Alterations 7, 8, 9, 10, 12 and 14 are identified as requiring full SEA (refer to Table 2.2) and these will be considered in a SEA Environmental Report.

3. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the transboundary nature of the effects

Most Proposed Material Alterations would not necessitate SEA as they would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses under Schedule 2 Part 1 above and the information provided under Sections 2.2 to 2.4. However, Proposed Material Alterations 7, 8, 9, 10, 12 and 14 are identified as requiring full SEA (refer to Table 2.2) and these will be considered in a SEA Environmental Report.

4. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents)

Most Proposed Material Alterations would not necessitate SEA as they would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses under Schedule 2 Part 1 above and the information provided under Sections 2.2 to 2.4. However, Proposed Material Alterations 7, 8, 9, 10, 12 and 14 are identified as requiring full SEA (refer to Table 2.2) and these will be considered in a SEA Environmental Report.

5. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)

Most Proposed Material Alterations would not necessitate SEA as they would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses under Schedule 2 Part 1 above and the information provided under Sections 2.2 to 2.4. However, Proposed Material Alterations 7, 8, 9, 10, 12 and 14 are identified as requiring full SEA (refer to Table 2.2) and these will be considered in a SEA Environmental Report.

6. *Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to:*

a) special natural characteristics or cultural heritage;

Most Proposed Material Alterations would not necessitate SEA as they would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses under Schedule 2 Part 1 above and the information provided under Sections 2.2 to 2.4. However, Proposed Material Alterations 7, 8, 9, 10, 12 and 14 are identified as requiring full SEA (refer to Table 2.2) and these will be considered in a SEA Environmental Report.

b) exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values, and;

Most Proposed Material Alterations would not necessitate SEA as they would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses under Schedule 2 Part 1 above and the information provided under Sections 2.2 to 2.4. However, Proposed Material Alterations 7, 8, 9, 10, 12 and 14 are identified as requiring full SEA (refer to Table 2.2) and these will be considered in a SEA Environmental Report.

c) intensive land-use.

Most Proposed Material Alterations would not necessitate SEA as they would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses under Schedule 2 Part 1 above and the information provided under Sections 2.2 to 2.4. However, Proposed Material Alterations 7, 8, 9, 10, 12 and 14 are identified as requiring full SEA (refer to Table 2.2) and these will be considered in a SEA Environmental Report.

7. *Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, European Union or international protection status*

Most Proposed Material Alterations would not necessitate SEA as they would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses under Schedule 2 Part 1 above and the information provided under Sections 2.2 to 2.4. However, Proposed Material Alterations 7, 8, 9, 10, 12 and 14 are identified as requiring full SEA (refer to Table 2.2) and these will be considered in a SEA Environmental Report.

Section 3 Screening for SEA Concluding Advice

Screening is the process for deciding whether a particular plan - or variation to a plan -, other than those for which SEA is mandatory, would be likely to have significant environmental effects, and would thus warrant SEA. The purpose of this report is to provide the findings of the evaluation of the requirement for SEA to be undertaken on the Proposed Material Alterations to Proposed Variation No. 1 to the Leitrim County Development Plan 2023-2029.

Proposed Material Alterations to the Proposed Variation have been examined, including against relevant criteria set out in Schedule 2 '*Criteria for determining whether a plan is likely to have significant effects on the environment*' of the European Union (Land Use Planning – SEA) Regulations 2025 (SI No. 456 of 2025). This SEA Screening Report provides the findings of this examination.

The Leitrim County Development Plan 2023-2029 was subject to full SEA, which identified the likely significant environmental effects, if unmitigated, of implementing the Development Plan, and facilitated the integration of measures into the Development Plan to ensure the appropriate protection and management of the environment with which all lower tier plans/projects must comply. The Proposed Variation, which is being subject to full SEA, requires compliance with these measures and includes additional such measures that must be complied with.

Taking into account the measures that have been integrated into both the Proposed Variation and the existing Development Plan that provide for and contribute towards environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development, any potential effects arising from most Proposed Material Alterations to Proposed Variation No. 1, would either: be present already (beneficial) and would be further contributed towards, but not to a significant extent; and/or would be mitigated so as not to be significant (adverse). Taking into account all of the above, most Proposed Material Alterations to Proposed Variation No. 1 would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

However, Proposed Material Alterations 7, 8, 9, 10, 12 and 14 are identified as requiring full SEA (refer to Table 2.2) and these will be considered in a SEA Environmental Report.

This report will inform the making of a Screening for SEA determination in advance of public display of the Proposed Material Alterations to the Proposed Variation.

Appendix I Relationship with Legislation and Other Plans and Programmes

This appendix is not intended to be a full and comprehensive review of EU Directives, the transposing regulations or the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. The information is not exhaustive and it is recommended to consult the relevant document to become familiar with the full details of each.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Additional information/lower-level objectives, etc.	Relevance to the Proposed Variation
European Level			
SEA Directive (2001/42/EC)	- Contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development. - Provide for a high level of protection of the environment by carrying out an environmental assessment of plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.	- Carry out an environmental assessment for plans or programmes referred to in Articles 2 to 4 of the Directive. - Prepare an environmental report which identifies, describes and evaluates the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme and reasonable alternatives that consider the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme. - Consult with relevant authorities, stakeholders and public allowing sufficient time to make a submission. - Consult other Member States where the implementation of a plan or programme is likely to have transboundary environmental effects. - Inform relevant authorities and stakeholders on the decision to implement the plan or programme. - Issue a statement to include requirements detailed in Article 9 of the Directive. - Monitor and mitigate significant environmental effects identified by the assessment.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EIA Directive (2011/92/EU as amended by 2014/52/EU)	- Requires the assessment of the environmental effects of public and private projects which are likely to have significant effects on the environment. - Aims to assess and implement avoidance or mitigation measures to eliminate environmental effects, before consent is given of projects likely to have significant effects on the environment by virtue, inter alia, of their nature, size or location are made subject to a requirement for development consent and an assessment with regard to their effects. Those projects are defined in Article 4.	- All projects listed in Annex I are considered as having significant effects on the environment and require an EIA. - For projects listed in Annex II, a "screening procedure" is required to determine the effects of projects on the basis of thresholds/criteria or a case by case examination. This should take into account Annex III. - The environmental impact assessment shall identify, describe and assess in an appropriate manner, in the light of each individual case and in accordance with Articles 4 to 12, the direct and indirect effects of a project on the following factors: human beings, fauna and flora, soil, water, air, climate and the landscape, material assets and the cultural heritage, the interaction between each factor. - Consult with relevant authorities, stakeholders and public allowing sufficient time to make a submission before a decision is made.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC)	- Promote the preservation, protection and improvement of the quality of the environment, including the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. - Contribute towards ensuring biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. - Maintain or restore to favourable conservation status, natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora of community interest. - Promote the maintenance of biodiversity, taking account of economic, social, cultural and regional requirements.	- Propose and protect sites of importance to habitats, plant and animal species. - Establish a network of European sites hosting the natural habitat types listed in Annex I and habitats of the species listed in Annex II, to enable the natural habitat types and the species' habitats concerned to be maintained or, where appropriate, restored at a favourable conservation status in their natural range. - Carry out comprehensive assessment of habitat types and species present. - Establish a system of strict protection for the animal species and plant species listed in Annex IV.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Birds Directive (2009/147/EC)	- Conserve all species of naturally occurring birds in the wild state including their eggs, nests and habitats. - Protect, manage and control these species and comply with regulations relating to their exploitation. - The species included in Annex I shall be the subject of special conservation measures concerning their habitat in order to ensure their survival and reproduction in their area of distribution.	- Preserve, maintain or re-establish a sufficient diversity and area of habitats for all the species of birds referred to in Annex 1. - Preserve, maintain and establish biotopes and habitats to include the creation of protected areas (Special Protection Areas). - Ensure the upkeep and management in accordance with the ecological needs of habitats inside and outside the protected zones, re-establish destroyed biotopes and creation of biotopes. - Measures for regularly occurring migratory species not listed in Annex I is required as regards their breeding, moulting and wintering areas and staging posts along their migration routes. The protection of wetlands and particularly wetlands of international importance.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

EU Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC)	It aims to reduce water pollution from nitrates used for agricultural purposes and prevent any further pollution. It forms an integral part of the water framework directive (Directive 2000/60/EC) of the European Union and is closely linked to other EU policies that address air quality, climate change and agriculture.	EU Member States must do the following: • Designate as vulnerable zones all those draining into waters that are or could be affected by high nitrate levels and eutrophication. The designation is reviewed and possibly revised at least every 4 years to take account of any changes that have occurred. • Establish mandatory action programmes for these areas, taking into account available scientific and technical data and overall environmental conditions. • Monitor the effectiveness of the action programmes. • Test the nitrate concentration in fresh ground and surface water at sampling stations, at least monthly and more frequently during flooding. • Carry out a comprehensive monitoring programme and submit – every 4 years – a detailed report on the directive's implementation. The report includes information on nitrate-vulnerable zones, results of water monitoring and a summary of the relevant aspects of codes of good agricultural practices and action programmes. • Draw up a code of good agricultural practices, which farmers apply on a voluntary basis. It sets out various good practices, such as when fertiliser use is inappropriate. • Provide training and information for farmers, where appropriate. The European Commission provides a report every 4 years on the basis of the national information it has received.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Environmental Quality Standards Directive (EQSD) (2008/105/EC)	It sets out environmental quality standards (EQSs) for the presence in surface water of certain substances or groups of substances identified as priority pollutants because of the significant risk they pose to or via the aquatic environment. These standards are in line with the strategy and objectives of the European Union (EU)'s water framework directive (Directive 2000/60/EC). It repeals Directives 82/176/EEC, 83/513/EEC, 84/156/EEC, 84/491/EEC and 86/280/EEC with effect from 22 December 2012.	The directive sets EQSs for priority substances and eight other pollutants. These substances include: the metals cadmium, lead, mercury and nickel, and their compounds; benzene; polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons; and several pesticides. Several of these priority substances are classed as hazardous. The EQSs in Directive 2008/105/EC are limits on the concentration of the priority substances and eight other pollutants in water (or biota), i.e. thresholds which must not be exceeded if a good chemical status is to be met. There are two types of water standard. A threshold for the average concentration of the substance concerned calculated from measurements over a 1-year period. The purpose of this standard is to ensure protection against long-term exposure to pollutants in the aquatic environment. A maximum allowable concentration of the substance concerned, i.e. the maximum for any single measurement. The purpose of this standard is to ensure protection against short-term exposure, i.e. pollution peaks. The EQSs are different for: • inland surface waters (rivers and lakes); • other surface waters (transitional, coastal and territorial waters). • EU Member States must ensure compliance with the EQSs. They must also take measures to ensure that the concentrations of substances that tend to accumulate in sediment and/or biota do not increase significantly.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Industrial Emissions (Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control) –IED Directive (2010/75/EU)	It is aimed at achieving significant benefits to the environment and human health by reducing harmful industrial emissions across the EU, in particular through better application of Best Available Techniques (BAT). The IED is based on the following principles: • an integrated approach (focusing on the installation being permitted rather than separately on different environmental media such as air, water or soil); • best available techniques; • flexibility; • inspections; • public participation. The IED combines seven separate existing Directives related to industrial emissions: With effect from 7 January 2014: • Directive 78/176/EEC of 20 February 1978 on waste from the titanium dioxide industry; • Directive 82/883/EEC on the surveillance and monitoring of titanium dioxide waste; • Directive 92/112/EEC on the reduction of titanium dioxide industrial waste; • Directive 1999/13/EC on reducing emissions of volatile organic compounds; • Directive 2000/76/EC on waste incineration (Waste Incineration Directive); • Directive 2008/1/EC concerning integrated pollution prevention and control (IPPC Directive); With effect from 1st January 2016: • Directive 2001/80/EC on the limitation of emissions of certain pollutants from large combustion plants (LCP Directive).	• The IED aspires to reduce and, as far as possible, eliminate pollution arising from industrial activities. It seeks to achieve this by providing a general framework for the control of the industries with the highest pollution potential in order to prevent the shifting of pollution from one environmental medium (or industry) to another. The overall intention is to provide an integrated approach to the prevention and control of emissions into the various environmental media such as, air, water and soil while striking a commercial balance for businesses. • The IED aims to increase the effectiveness of the legislation by supporting Member States in implementing BAT-based permitting. The IED aims to improve and clarify the concept and use of BAT and increases transparency by requiring that the use of flexibility must be justified and documented leading to a more coherent and EU-wide application of BAT. • The IED also strengthens existing minimum requirements in certain sectors (such as large combustion plants, waste incineration, etc.) so as to ensure the achievement of objectives of the Commission's Thematic Strategy on Air Pollution. • The IED aims to further increase the effectiveness of the legislation by strengthening provisions on environmental improvement and enforcement, while stimulating innovation. The IED introduces minimum requirements as regards the environmental inspections of installations, the review and update of permits, and reporting on compliance. It also provides incentives for the development and promotion of environment-friendly technologies. • The IED aims to cut all identified unnecessary administrative burdens and simplify current legislation. The IED tackles the shortcomings of current EU legislation on industrial emissions by overhauling the seven existing pieces of legislation on industrial emissions. This has improved the clarity and coherence of the legislation and should reduce the administrative burden through combined requirements on granting permits and streamlined reporting.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

EU Plant Protection (products) Directive 2009/127/EC	The Directive applies to pesticides which are plant protection products. Regarding pesticide application equipment already in professional use, the Framework Directive introduces requirements for the inspection and maintenance to be carried out on such equipment.	This Directive is limited to the essential requirements with which machinery for pesticide application must comply before being placed on the market and/or put into service, while the European standardisation organisations are responsible for drawing up harmonised standards providing detailed specifications for the various categories of such machinery in order to enable manufacturers to comply with those requirements.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Renewable Energy Directive (RED) 2023/2413 - amending Directive (EU) 2018/2001, Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 and Directive 98/70/EC as regards the promotion of energy from renewable sources, and repealing Council Directive (EU) 2015/652	The Renewable Energy Directive is the legal framework for the development of clean energy across all sectors of the EU economy, supporting cooperation between EU countries towards this goal. The revised Directive introduces stronger measures to ensure that all possibilities for the further development and uptake of renewables are fully utilised. This will be key to achieving the EU's objective of climate neutrality by 2050 and to strengthen Europe's security of energy supply. In addition to double the existing share of renewable energy sources, a strong policy framework will facilitate electrification in different sectors, with new increased sector-specific targets for renewables in heating and cooling, transport, industry, buildings and district heating/cooling, but also with a framework promoting electric vehicles and smart recharging.	The revised Directive sets an overall renewable energy target of at least 42.5% binding at EU level by 2030 - but aiming for 45%. The amended RED contains revised targets for renewable energy consumption in transport, of 29% energy share (known as the 'RES-T') or a 14.5% GHG reduction by 2030.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Indirect Land Use Change Directive (2012/0288 (COD))	- Article 3(4) of Directive 2009/28/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (3) requires Member States to ensure that the share of energy from renewable energy sources in all forms of transport in 2020 is at least 10 % of their final energy consumption. - The blending of biofuels is one of the methods available for Member States to meet this target, and is expected to be the main contributor. - Other methods available to meet the target are the reduction of energy consumption, which is imperative because a mandatory percentage target for energy from renewable sources is likely to become increasingly difficult to achieve sustainably if overall demand for energy for transport continues to rise, and the use of electricity from renewable energy sources.	- Limit the contribution that conventional biofuels (with a risk of ILUC emissions) make towards attainment of the targets in the Renewable Energy Directive; - Improve the greenhouse gas performance of biofuel production processes (reducing associated emissions) by raising the greenhouse gas saving threshold for new installations subject to protecting installations already in operation on 1st July 2014; - Encourage a greater market penetration of advanced (low-ILUC) biofuels by allowing such fuels to contribute more to the targets in the Renewable Energy Directive than conventional biofuels; - Improve the reporting of greenhouse gas emissions by obliging Member States and fuel suppliers to report the estimated indirect land-use change emissions of biofuels.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

Alternative Fuel Infrastructure Regulation (AFIR) - (Regulation (EU) 2023/1804 on the deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure, and repealing Directive 2014/94/EU)	The regulation sets mandatory national targets for European Union Member States to deploy publicly accessible alternative fuels infrastructure (in particular for electricity and hydrogen) for road vehicles, vessels moored at the quayside and stationary aircraft, with a specific focus on the trans-European networks. The regulation also includes: • common rules for user information, data provision and payment requirements; • a mandate for the Commission to adopt delegated acts to ensure interoperability of infrastructure by mandating technical specifications on the basis of European standards; and • planning and reporting requirements for Member States.	Recharging infrastructure for electric cars and vans: • Member States must ensure that publicly accessible recharging stations are set up in proportion to the number of registered vehicles, as follows: • for each registered electric vehicle, a total power output of at least 1.3 kilowatts (kW); • for each registered plug-in hybrid vehicle, a total power output of at least 0.80 kW. • Member States must also ensure the deployment of publicly accessible recharging stations along the trans-European transport network (TEN-T) road network. Recharging infrastructure for electric heavy-duty vehicles: • Member States must ensure a minimum coverage of recharging points for heavy-duty electric vehicles. Hydrogen infrastructure for road vehicles: • By 31 December 2030, Member States must ensure that publicly accessible hydrogen refuelling stations with a total capacity of at least 1 tonne per day are deployed at least every 200 km along the TEN-T core network. At least one refuelling station must be deployed in each urban node. Liquefied methane for road transport: • Until 31 December 2024, Member States must ensure that an appropriate number of publicly accessible refuelling points for liquefied methane are set up, at least along the TEN-T core network, where there is demand, unless the costs are disproportionate to the benefits, including environmental benefits. Electricity supply in maritime ports: • By 31 December 2029, there must be sufficient shoreside electricity for ships moored at the quayside at TEN-T core and TEN-T comprehensive maritime ports to serve at least 90% of all container and passenger vessels above 5,000 gross tonnage. Electricity for stationary aircraft: • By 31 December 2024, all airports of the TEN-T core and comprehensive network must provide electricity to stationary aircraft used for commercial air transport operations at aircraft contact stands, and by 31 December 2029 at all remote stands. Railway infrastructure: • Member States must assess the development of alternative fuel technologies and propulsion systems (including hydrogen and battery power) for rail infrastructure that cannot be fully electrified for technical or cost-efficiency reasons. Payment: • Users of electric and hydrogen vehicles must be able to pay easily at recharging and hydrogen refuelling points (with payment cards and without subscriptions). Prices, including all of their components and specific to the recharging session, must be communicated clearly to end users before the start of a recharging session.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Energy Efficiency Directive (2012/27/EU)	• Establishes a set of binding measures to help the EU reach its 20% energy efficiency target by 2020. • Under the Directive, all EU countries are required to use energy more efficiently at all stages of the energy chain, from production to final consumption.	• Energy distributors or retail energy sales companies have to achieve 1.5% energy savings per year through the implementation of energy efficiency measures • EU countries can opt to achieve the same level of savings through other means, such as improving the efficiency of heating systems, installing double glazed windows or insulating roofs • The public sector in EU countries should purchase energy efficient buildings, products and services • Every year, governments in EU countries must carry out energy efficient renovations on at least 3% (by floor area) of the buildings they own and occupy • Energy consumers should be empowered to better manage consumption. This includes easy and free access to data on consumption through individual metering • National incentives for SMEs to undergo energy audits • Large companies will make audits of their energy consumption to help them identify ways to reduce it • Monitoring efficiency levels in new energy generation capacities.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Seveso Directive (2012/18/EU)	This Directive lays down rules for the prevention of major accidents which involve dangerous substances, and the limitation of their consequences for human health and the environment, with a view to ensuring a high level of protection throughout the Union in a consistent and effective manner.	The Seveso Directive is well integrated with other EU policies, thus avoiding double regulation or other administrative burden. This includes the following related policy areas: • Classification, labelling and packaging of chemicals; • The Union's Civil Protection Mechanism; • The Security Union Agenda including CBRN-E and Protection of critical infrastructure; • Policy on environmental liability and on the protection of the environment through criminal law; • Safety of offshore oil and gas operations.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

EU Effort Sharing Regulation (ESR) 2018 (as amended in 2023)	The ESR establishes binding annual greenhouse gas emission targets for Member States from 2021 to 2030. It is part of a set of policies and measures to reduce the EU's emissions by at least 55% by 2030, compared to 1990 levels. This is a crucial milestone to deliver the European Green Deal and achieve climate neutrality by 2050. The ESR is also part of the Energy Union strategy and the EU's implementation of the Paris Agreement.	The national targets concern emissions from the following sectors: domestic transport (excluding aviation), buildings, agriculture, small industry, and waste. These sectors account for almost 60% of emissions in the EU. The ESR assigns each Member State with an emission reduction target for 2030, a set of annual emission allocations for each year from 2021 to 2030, and flexibilities to deal with annual fluctuations in greenhouse gas emissions due to weather or economic conditions. The amended legislation increases the emissions reduction target for the targeted sectors including transport, from 29% to 40% by 2030, compared to 2005 levels.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
The Energy Union Strategy (COM/2015/080) (2015) and the EU “Clean energy for all Europeans” package (2019)	The Energy Union Strategy aims at building an energy union that gives EU consumers - households and businesses - secure, sustainable, competitive and affordable energy. Since its launch in 2015, the EC has published several packages of measures and regular progress reports, which monitor the implementation of this key priority, to ensure that the energy union strategy is achieved. The package aims to help to decarbonise EU's energy system in line with the European Green Deal objectives. The ESR transforms the targets of the Clean Energy Package into binding annual climate targets for each Member State for the period 2021–2030. The “Clean energy for all Europeans” package – marked a significant step towards implementing the Energy Union Strategy.	The Energy Union Strategy builds five closely related and mutually reinforcing dimensions: • Security, solidarity and trust - diversifying Europe's sources of energy and ensuring energy security through solidarity and cooperation between EU countries. • A fully integrated internal energy market - enabling the free flow of energy through the EU through adequate infrastructure and without technical or regulatory barriers. • Energy efficiency - improved energy efficiency will reduce dependence on energy imports, lower emissions, and drive jobs and growth. • Climate action, decarbonising the economy - the EU is committed to a quick ratification of the Paris Agreement and to retaining its leadership in the area of renewable energy. • Research, innovation and competitiveness - supporting breakthroughs in low-carbon and clean energy technologies by prioritising research and innovation to drive the energy transition and improve competitiveness. Based on Commission proposals published in 2016, the Clean Energy package consists of 8 new laws. Following political agreement by the EU Council and the European Parliament (finalised in May 2019) and the entry into force of the different EU rules, EU countries have 1-2 years to convert the new directives into national law.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Directive on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe 2024/EC recast: Ambient Air Quality and Cleaner Air for Europe Directive 2008/50/EC and Fourth Daughter Directive 2004/107/EC	This new directive simplifies EU rules on ambient air quality by merging the two existing EU directives into one. Its goal is to bring quality standards in line with the World Health Organization (WHO) recommendations. The new directive introduces stricter limits on key air pollutants, aligning EU standards more closely with World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines.	Air quality is assessed using common methods and criteria across the EU, and the revised directive brings further improvements to air quality monitoring and modelling. The revised directive will also ensure early action, with air quality roadmaps that need to be prepared ahead of 2030 if there is a risk that the new standards will not be attained by that date. The air quality standards will be reviewed regularly in line with latest scientific evidence to assess whether they continue to be appropriate. The revised directive prioritises the health of EU citizens: it sets new air quality standards for pollutants to be reached by 2030 which are more closely aligned with the WHO air quality guidelines. Those pollutants include, among others, particulate matter PM ₁₀ and PM _{2.5} , nitrogen dioxide and sulphur dioxide, all known to cause respiratory problems. Member states may request that the 2030 deadline be postponed if specific conditions are met.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU (2018) Clean Air Policy Package	Aims to substantially reduce air pollution across the EU.	The proposed strategy sets out objectives for reducing the health and environmental impacts of air pollution by 2030, and contains legislative proposals to implement stricter standards for emissions and air pollution.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Emissions Ceilings (NEC) Directive 2016/2284/EU on the reduction of certain atmospheric pollutants	It aims to reduce the health risks and environmental impact of air pollution by establishing national emission reduction commitments. The Directive also aligns emission reduction commitments under EU law with international commitments (following the revision of the Gothenburg Protocol in 2012). The legislation was proposed as part of the EU's 2013 Clean Air Policy Package, which included a Clean Air Programme for Europe.	The Directive covers 5 air pollutants: • sulphur dioxide; • nitrogen oxides; • non-methane volatile organic compounds; • ammonia; and • fine particulate matter. The Directive sets emission reduction commitments per pollutant for each EU country to be attained by 2020 and 2030. The emission reduction commitments for each pollutant that will apply each year from 2020 to 2029 are the same as those which the EU countries are already committed to under the revised Gothenburg protocol. New stricter reductions have been agreed from 2030 onwards.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

UNECE Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (1979)	The first international treaty to deal with air pollution on a broad regional basis. The Convention entered into force in 1983, laying down the general principles of international cooperation for air pollution abatement and setting up an institutional framework which has since brought together research and policy.	The Convention has substantially contributed to the development of international environmental law and has created the essential framework for controlling and reducing the damage to human health and the environment caused by transboundary air pollution.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Directive on arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and PAH in ambient air (2004/107/EC), as amended	Directive 2004/107/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 December 2004 relating to arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in ambient air.	The objective of this Directive is to establish a target value for the concentration of arsenic, cadmium, nickel and benzo(a)pyrene in ambient air so as to avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects of arsenic, cadmium, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons on human health and the environment as a whole. It determines common methods and criteria for the assessment of concentrations of arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in ambient air as well as of the deposition of such substances.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Medium Combustion Plants (MCP) Directive (2015/2193)	Directive (EU) 2015/2193 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the limitation of emissions of certain pollutants into the air from medium combustion plants.	This Directive lays down rules to control emissions of sulphur dioxide (SO ₂), nitrogen oxides (NOx) and dust into the air from medium combustion plants, as well as to monitor emissions of carbon monoxide (CO). The aim is to reduce emissions to air and the potential risks to human health and the environment from such emissions. As regards the scope, Article 2 identifies the types of combustion plants to which these rules apply. Emission limits values are set out in Annex II.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Energy Efficiency Directive 2023/1791 on energy efficiency and amending Regulation (EU) 2023/955 (recast)	The revised Energy Efficiency Directive significantly raises the EU's ambition on energy efficiency. It establishes 'energy efficiency first' as a fundamental principle of EU energy policy, giving it legal-standing for the first time. The Commission has published a series of recommendations, including guidelines for EU countries related to the revised directive, to help countries transpose its different elements into national law.	The revised Directive: • raises the EU energy efficiency target, making it binding for EU countries to collectively ensure an additional 11.7% reduction in energy consumption by 2030, compared to the projections of the EU reference scenario 2020; • more than doubles the annual energy savings obligation (Article 8) by 2028, this is one of the key policy instruments of the directive to meet the headline target and to drive energy savings in end-use sectors, such as buildings, industry and transport; • puts a stronger focus on alleviating energy poverty, it aims at empowering consumers through stronger requirements for EU countries to raise awareness and provide information on energy efficiency; • it includes improved regulations to identify and remove barriers related to split incentives for energy efficiency renovations between tenants and owners or among multiple owners; • introduces an obligation for the monitoring and reporting of the energy performance of data centres; • expands the scope of energy audit obligations to include all those companies, regardless of their size, which are consuming energy above a certain threshold; • mandates EU countries to report on energy efficiency investments, including energy performance contracts, as part of the Governance Regulation, ensuring transparency and accountability; • establishes project development assistance mechanisms at national, regional, and local levels to support energy efficiency investments and facilitate the attainment of the EU's ambitious energy efficiency targets.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

Noise Directive (2002/49/EC)	The Noise Directive - Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise - is part of an EU strategy setting out to reduce the number of people affected by noise in the longer term and to provide a framework for developing existing Community policy on noise reduction from source.	The Directive requires competent authorities in Member States to: • Draw up strategic noise maps for major roads, railways, airports and agglomerations, using harmonised noise indicators and use these maps to assess the number of people which may be impacted upon as a result of excessive noise levels; • Draw up action plans to reduce noise where necessary and maintain environmental noise quality where it is good; and • Inform and consult the public about noise exposure, its effects, and the measures considered to address noise. The Directive does not set any limit value, nor does it prescribe the measures to be used in the action plans, which remain at the discretion of the competent authorities.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Floods Directive (2007/60/EC)	• Establishes a framework for the assessment and management of flood risks • Reduce adverse consequences for human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity associated with floods in the Community	• Assess all water courses and coast lines at risk from flooding through Flood Risk Assessment • Prepare flood hazard maps and flood risk maps outlining the extent or potential of flooding and assets and humans at risk in these areas at River Basin District level (Article 3(2) (b)) and areas covered by Article 5(1) and Article 13(1) (b) in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3. • Implement flood risk management plans and take adequate and coordinated measures to reduce flood risk for the areas covered by the Articles listed above. • Inform the public and allow the public to participate in planning process.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)	• Establish a framework for the protection of water bodies to include inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater and their dependent wildlife and habitats. • Preserve and prevent the deterioration of water status and where necessary improve and maintain "good status" of water bodies. • Promote sustainable water usage. • The Water Framework Directive repealed the following Directives: ◦ The Drinking Water Abstraction Directive ◦ Sampling Drinking Water Directive ◦ Exchange of Information on Quality of Surface Freshwater Directive ◦ Shellfish Directive ◦ Freshwater Fish Directive ◦ Groundwater (Dangerous Substances) Directive ◦ Dangerous Substances Directive	• Protect, enhance and restore all water bodies and meet the environmental objectives outlined in Article 4 of the Directive. • Achieve "good status" for all waters. • Manage water bodies based on identifying and establishing river basins districts. • Involve the public and streamline legislation. • Prepare and implement a River Basin Management Plan for each river basin districts identified and a Register of Protected Areas. • Establish a programme of monitoring for surface water status, groundwater status and protected areas. • Recover costs for water services.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC)	• Protect, control and conserve groundwater. • Prevent the deterioration of the status of all bodies of groundwater. • Implements measures to prevent and control groundwater pollution, including criteria for assessing good groundwater chemical status and criteria for the identification of significant and sustained upward trends and for the definition of starting points for trend reversals.	• Meet minimum groundwater standards listed in Annex 1 of Directive. • Meet threshold values adopted by national legislation for the pollutants, groups of pollutants and indicators of pollution which have been identified as contributing to the characterisation of bodies or groups of bodies of groundwater as being at risk, also taking into account Part B of Annex II.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Drinking Water Directive - Directive (EU) 2020/2184 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2020 on the quality of water intended for human consumption (recast)	• Protect human health from the adverse effects of any contamination of water intended for human consumption by ensuring that it is wholesome and clean, and to improve access to water intended for human consumption.	For purposes of the Directive, 'water intended for human consumption' means: a) all water, either in its original state or after treatment, intended for drinking, cooking, food preparation or other domestic purposes in both public and private premises, regardless of its origin and whether it is supplied from a distribution network, supplied from a tanker or put into bottles or containers, including spring waters; b) all water used in any food business for the manufacture, processing, preservation or marketing of products or substances intended for human consumption.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive - Directive (EU) 2024/3019 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 November 2024 concerning urban wastewater treatment (recast)	Protect the environment and human health from adverse effects of urban wastewater discharges while reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving energy efficiency in the sector.	The Directive establishes a detailed framework covering: - Requirements for collection and treatment of urban wastewater in agglomerations above 1,000 population equivalent (p.e.) - Standards for secondary, tertiary and new quaternary treatment of wastewater - Extended producer responsibility for pharmaceutical and cosmetic companies to cover costs of removing micropollutants - Energy neutrality targets for treatment plants - Requirements for monitoring, reporting and public access to information	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Water Reuse Regulation (2020/741)	The purpose of this Regulation is to facilitate the uptake of water reuse whenever it is appropriate and cost-efficient, thereby creating an enabling framework for those Member States who wish or need to practise water reuse.	Regulation (EU) 2020/741 of the European Parliament and of the Council on minimum requirements for water reuse. This Regulation lays down minimum requirements for water quality and monitoring and provisions on risk management, for the safe use of reclaimed water in the context of integrated water management.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Environmental Liability Directive (2004/35/EC) as amended by Directive 2006/21/EC, Directive 2009/31/EC and Directive 2013/30/EU	The overall aim of the ELD is to prevent and fully remedy damaged natural resources and their services to the condition that would have existed if no damage had occurred.	- Relates to environmental damage caused by any of the occupational activities listed in Annex III, and to any imminent threat of such damage occurring by reason of any of those activities; damage to protected species and natural habitats caused by any occupational activities other than those listed in Annex III, and to any imminent threat of such damage occurring by reason of any of those activities, whenever the operator has been at fault or negligent. - Where environmental damage has not yet occurred but there is an imminent threat of such damage occurring, the operator shall, without delay, take the necessary preventive measures. - Where environmental damage has occurred the operator shall, without delay, inform the competent authority of all relevant aspects of the situation and take all practicable steps to immediately control, contain, remove or otherwise manage the relevant contaminants and/or any other damage factors in order to limit or to prevent further environmental damage and adverse effects on human health or further impairment of services and the necessary remedial measures, in accordance with Article 7. - The operator shall bear the costs for the preventive and remedial actions taken pursuant to this Directive. - The competent authority shall be entitled to initiate cost recovery proceedings against the operator. - The operator may be required to provide financial security guarantees to ensure their responsibilities under the directive are met. - The Environmental Liability Directive has been amended through a number of Directives. Implementation of the Environmental Liability Directive is contributed towards by a Multi-Annual Work Programme (MAWP) 'Making the Environmental Liability Directive more fit for purpose' that is updated annually to changing developments, growing knowledge and new needs.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Sewage Sludge Directive (Council Directive 86/278/EEC of 12 June 1986 on the protection of the environment, and in particular of the soil, when sewage sludge is used in agriculture)	The purpose of this Directive is to regulate the use of sewage sludge in agriculture in such a way as to prevent harmful effects on soil, vegetation, animals and man, thereby encouraging the correct use of such sewage sludge. Member States shall prohibit the use of sludge where the concentration of one or more heavy metals in the soil exceeds the limit values which they lay down in accordance with Annex I A and shall take the necessary steps to ensure that those limit values are not exceeded as a result of the use of sludge. The aims of the Sewage Sludge Directive are - to protect humans, animals, plants and the environment by ensuring that heavy metals in soil and sludge do not exceed set limits - to increase the amount of sewage sludge used in agriculture	The Directive also: - sets limits for the concentration of seven heavy metals in sewage sludge intended for agricultural use and in sludge-treated soils (cadmium, copper, nickel, lead, zinc, mercury, chromium) - bans the use of sewage sludge that results in concentrations of these heavy metals in soil exceeding these limit values	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

Bathing Waters Directive (Directive 2006/7/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the management of bathing water quality and repealing Directive 76/160/EEC)	With a view to preserving, protecting and improving human health and the environment, within the legal framework of Directive 2000/60/EC, the present Directive establishes provisions for: (a) the monitoring and classification of bathing water quality; (b) the management of bathing water quality; and (c) the provision of information to the public on bathing water quality. Member States are required to annually identify all bathing waters and define the length of the bathing season. The EU aims to protect the environment and the health of Europeans by attaining good bathing water quality throughout the EU. More specifically, it aims to: - provide better and earlier information to citizens about the quality of their bathing waters, including logos - move from simple sampling and monitoring of bathing waters to bathing quality management - integrate into other EU measures protecting the quality of all our waters (rivers, lakes, ground waters and coastal waters) through the Water Framework Directive	The Bathing Water Directive requires Member States to monitor and assess bathing water. It ensures timely information is given to the public during the bathing season and requires Member States to disseminate information on bathing water quality actively and promptly. In particular, notices banning or advising against bathing should be rapidly and easily identifiable. The Directive applies to all surface waters that can be used for bathing, except for swimming pools and spa pools, confined waters subject to treatment or used for therapeutic purposes and confined waters artificially separated from surface water and groundwater. Decision establishing a symbol for information to the public on bathing water classification and any bathing prohibition. View the symbols for informing the public on bathing water prohibition, advice against bathing and bathing water classification. The implementation of the Bathing Water Directive is supported by a broad EU framework of water legislation, including the Water Framework Directive, the Environmental Quality Standards Directive, the Groundwater Directive, the Marine Strategy Framework Directive and the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Sustainable Use of Pesticides Directive (2009/128/EC) Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the sustainable use of plant protection products and amending Regulation (EU) 2021/2115	The Sustainable Use of Pesticides Directive (SUD) establishes a framework for European Community action to achieve the sustainable use of pesticides by setting minimum rules to reduce the risks to human health and the environment that are associated with pesticide use. The Directive aims to achieve a sustainable use of pesticides in the EU by reducing the risks and impacts of pesticide use on human health and the environment and promoting the use of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and of alternative approaches or techniques, such as non-chemical alternatives to pesticides. EU countries have drawn up National Action Plans to implement the range of actions set out in the Directive.	The main actions relate to training of users, advisors and distributors of pesticides, inspection of pesticide application equipment, the prohibition of aerial spraying, limitation of pesticide use in sensitive areas, and information and awareness raising about pesticide risks. EU countries must also promote Integrated Pest Management, for which, general principles are laid down in Annex III to the Directive. The European Commission has adopted a proposal for a new Regulation on the Sustainable Use of Plant Protection Products, including EU wide targets to reduce by 50% the use and risk of chemical pesticides by 2030, in line with the EU's Farm to Fork and Biodiversity strategies. The proposal, adopted on 22 June 2022, is part of a package of measures to reduce the environmental footprint of the EU's food system and help mitigate the economic losses that we are already suffering due to climate change and biodiversity loss. The proposal transforms the existing Directive into a Regulation which will be directly binding and uniformly applicable to all Member States. It overhauls the existing rules on the Sustainable Use of Pesticides (see Directive 2009/128/EC) to bring them in line with the ambitions set in the EU Green Deal, Biodiversity and Farm to Fork strategies. The proposals must be approved by Member States in the Council and the European Parliament, under the normal legislative procedure.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) (1962) CAP 2023-2027	The CAP is a partnership between society and agriculture that ensures a stable supply of food, safeguards farmers' income, protects the environment and keeps rural areas vibrant. It aims to: - support farmers and improve agricultural productivity, ensuring a stable supply of affordable food; - safeguard European Union farmers to make a reasonable living; - help tackle climate change and the sustainable management of natural resources; - maintain rural areas and landscapes across the EU; - keep the rural economy alive by promoting jobs in farming, agri-food industries and associated sectors.	The CAP 2023-2027 entered into force on 1 January 2023. Support for farmers and rural stakeholders across the 27 EU countries is based on the CAP 2023-2027 legal framework and the choices detailed in the CAP Strategic Plans, approved by the Commission. The approved Plans are designed to make a significant contribution to the ambitions of the European Green Deal, Farm to Fork Strategy and Biodiversity Strategy.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU REACH Regulation (EC 1907/2006), as amended	The purpose of this Regulation is to ensure a high level of protection of human health and the environment, including the promotion of alternative methods for assessment of hazards of substances, as well as the free circulation of substances on the internal market while enhancing competitiveness and innovation.	This Regulation lays down provisions on hazardous substances and mixtures and specification of hazard classes; general obligations of manufacturers, importers and downstream users to classify, label and package the substances and mixtures; identification and examination of available information on substances and mixtures; evaluation of hazard information and decision on classification; establishment of a classification and labelling inventory in the form of a database; and the manufacture, placing on the market and use of chemical substances and preparations, pursuant to the precautionary principle. The Regulation sets forth the framework concerning the registration of such substances and preparations as well as the granting of authorizations. Furthermore, it sets up the European Chemicals Agency for the purposes of managing and carrying out the technical, scientific and administrative aspects of this Regulation. This Regulation sets out eight annexes attached. Annex I sets out the criteria for classification and labelling requirements for hazardous substances and mixtures. Annex II lays down special rules for labelling and packaging of certain classified substances and mixtures.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

UN Sustainable Development Goals	The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its heart are 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which reflect the need for all countries to urgently act as a global partnership.	Sustainable transport is mainstreamed across several SDGs and targets, especially those related to food security, health, energy, economic growth, infrastructure, and cities and human settlements.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Commission's "Forging a climate-resilient Europe - the new EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change" (2021)	The Strategy sets out how the European Union can adapt to the unavoidable impacts of climate change and become climate resilient by 2050.	The Strategy has four principal objectives: to make adaptation smarter, swifter and more systemic, and to step up international action on adaptation to climate change.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Environment Agency's European Climate Risk Assessment (2024)	This assessment identifies 36 climate risks with potentially severe consequences across Europe.	The risks are evaluated in the contexts of risk severity, policy horizon (lead time and decision horizon), policy readiness and risk ownership. It further identifies priorities for EU policy action, based on a structured risk assessment united with qualitative aspects, such as considering social justice.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
UN Kyoto Protocol (2nd Kyoto Period), the Second European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II), Paris climate conference (COP21) 2015 (Paris Agreement)	The UN Kyoto Protocol set of policy measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The Second European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II) aims to identify and develop all the necessary elements of an EU strategy to implement the Kyoto Protocol. At the Paris climate conference (COP21) in December 2015, 195 countries adopted the first-ever universal, legally binding global climate deal. The agreement sets out a global action plan to put the world on track to avoid dangerous climate change by limiting global warming to well below 2°C and in line with recommendations of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) take steps "to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above preindustrial levels".	- The Kyoto Protocol is implemented through the European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II). - EU member states implement measures to improve on or complement the specified measures and policies arising from the ECCP. Under COP21, governments agreed to come together every 5 years to set more ambitious targets as required by science; report to each other and the public on how well they are doing to implement their targets; track progress towards the long-term goal through a robust transparency and accountability system.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Green Deal (2019) and "Fit for 55" legislation (2021)	The European Green Deal provides a roadmap for making the EU's economy sustainable by turning climate and environmental challenges into opportunities across all policy areas and making the transition just and inclusive for all. The "Fit for 55" legislative package is a central part of the European Green Deal.	The European Green Deal covers all sectors of the economy, notably transport, energy, agriculture, buildings, and industries such as steel, cement, ICT, textiles and chemicals. It outlines investments needed and financing tools available, and explains how to ensure a just and inclusive transition. The 'Fit for 55' package responds to the requirements in the EU Climate Law to reduce Europe's net greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% by 2030. It was updated when the Commission proposed increased ambition on renewable energy and energy efficiency in the REPowerEU plan to respond to Russia's invasion of Ukraine and boost Europe's energy security. The final legislative package is expected to reduce EU net greenhouse gas emissions by 57% by 2030. For transport, the package is primarily focused on reducing fossil fuel dependency and increasing the availability of, and infrastructure for, renewable alternatives.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

Leaders Pledge for Nature 2020	Political leaders (including Taoiseach Michael Martin) participating in the United Nations Summit on Biodiversity in September 2020, representing 75 countries from all regions and the European Union, have committed to reversing biodiversity loss by 2030.	As part of the UN Decade of Action to achieve sustainable development, the leaders commit to achieve the vision of Living in Harmony with Nature by 2050 by undertaking ten actions, including: - Putting biodiversity, climate, and the environment at the heart of COVID-19 recovery strategies and investments as well as national and international development and cooperation; - Developing and implementing an ambitious and transformational post-2020 global biodiversity framework for adoption at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 15) to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in Kunming, China, as a key instrument to reach the SDGs; - Raising ambition and aligning domestic climate policies with the Paris Agreement on climate change, with enhanced nationally determined contributions (NDCs) and long-term strategies consistent with the temperature goals of the Paris Agreement, and the objective of net zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by mid-century, and strengthen climate resilience of economies and ecosystems; and - Mainstream biodiversity into relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral policies at all levels, including in food production, agriculture, fisheries and forestry, energy, tourism, infrastructure and extractive industries, and trade and supply chains, as well as into key international agreements and processes.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 - Bringing nature back into our lives (European Commission, 2020)	The EU's biodiversity strategy for 2030 is a comprehensive, ambitious and long-term plan to protect nature and reverse the degradation of ecosystems. The strategy aims to put Europe's biodiversity on a path to recovery by 2030, and contains specific actions and commitments. Aims to build resilience to future threats such as the impacts of climate change, forest fires, food insecurity, disease outbreaks and protecting wildlife and fighting illegal wildlife trade.	The Strategy contains specific commitments and actions to be delivered by 2030, including: - Establishing a larger EU-wide network of protected areas on land and at sea; - Launching an EU nature restoration plan; - Introducing measures to enable the necessary transformative stage; and - Introducing measures to tackle the global biodiversity challenge.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
EU Green Infrastructure Strategy (2013)	Aims to create a robust enabling framework in order to promote and facilitate Green Infrastructure (GI) projects.	- Promoting GI in the main EU policy areas. - Supporting EU-level GI projects. - Improving access to finance for GI projects. - Improving information and promoting innovation.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valletta, 1992)	The aim of this (revised) Convention is to protect the archaeological heritage as a source of the European collective memory and as an instrument for historical and scientific study.	The Valletta Convention makes the conservation and enhancement of the archaeological heritage one of the goals of urban and regional planning policies. The Convention sets guidelines for the funding of excavation and research work and publication of research findings. It also deals with public access, in particular to archaeological sites, and educational actions to be undertaken to develop public awareness of the value of the archaeological heritage. It also constitutes an institutional framework for pan-European co-operation on the archaeological heritage, entailing a systematic exchange of experience and experts among the various States.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
ICOMOS (2011) Principles for the Conservation of Industrial Heritage Sites, Structures, Areas and Landscapes ('Dublin Principles')	It is aimed to assist in the documentation, protection, conservation and appreciation of industrial heritage as part of the heritage of human societies around the World.	(I) Document and understand industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes and their values; (II) Ensure effective protection and conservation of the industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes; (III) Conserve and maintain the industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes; and (IV) Present and communicate the heritage dimensions and values of industrial structures, sites, areas and landscapes to raise public and corporate awareness, and support training and research.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

Convention of the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada, 1995)	The main purpose of the Convention is to reinforce and promote policies for the conservation and enhancement of Europe's heritage. It also affirms the need for European solidarity with regard to heritage conservation and is designed to foster practical co-operation among the Parties. It establishes the principles of "European co-ordination of conservation policies" including consultations regarding the thrust of the policies to be implemented.	- The reinforcement and promotion of policies for protecting and enhancing the heritage within the territories of the parties. - The affirmation of European solidarity with regard to the protection of the heritage and the fostering of practical co-operation between states and regions.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Council of Europe Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society (Faro, 2005)	- Cultural heritage is a group of resources inherited from the past which people identify, independently of ownership, as a reflection and expression of their constantly evolving values, beliefs, knowledge and traditions. It includes all aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time. - A heritage community consists of people who value specific aspects of cultural heritage which they wish, within the framework of public action, to sustain and transmit to future generations.	- Recognise that rights relating to cultural heritage are inherent in the right to participate in cultural life, as defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. - Recognise individual and collective responsibility towards cultural heritage. - Emphasise that the conservation of cultural heritage and its sustainable use have human development and quality of life as their goal. - Take the necessary steps to apply the provisions of this Convention concerning the role of cultural heritage in the construction of a peaceful and democratic society. - Greater synergy of competencies among all the public, institutional and private actors concerned.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Landscape Convention (Florence, 2000)	The European Landscape Convention introduced a Europe-wide concept centring on the quality of landscape protection, management and planning and covering the entire territory, not just outstanding landscapes. Through its ground-breaking approach and its broader scope, it complements the Council of Europe's and UNESCO's heritage conventions.	- Promote protection, management and planning of landscapes. - Organise European co-operation on landscape issues.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
The Eight Environmental Action Programme (2021–2030)	The 8th Environmental Action Programme (8th EAP) 2021–2030 sets the EU's legally binding environmental policy framework anchored in the European Green Deal. It establishes a long-term vision out to 2050 and specific targets for 2030.	By 2050, the goal is for Europeans to: "Live well, within planetary boundaries" - Thrive in a well-being economy where nothing is wasted and growth is regenerative - Achieve climate neutrality - Substantially reduce inequalities	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Bern Convention (Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats) (1979)	The convention has three main aims: - to conserve wild flora and fauna and their natural habitats - to promote cooperation between states - to give particular attention to endangered and vulnerable species including endangered and vulnerable migratory species	The Parties under the convention recognise the intrinsic value of nature, which needs to be preserved and passed to future generations, they also: - Seek to ensure the conservation of nature in their countries, paying particular attention to planning and development policies and pollution control. - Look at implementing the Bern Convention in central Eastern Europe and the Caucas. - Take account of the potential impact on natural heritage by other policies. - Promote education and information of the public, ensuring the need to conserve species is understood and acted upon. - Develop an extensive number of species action plans, codes of conducts, and guidelines, at their own initiative or in co-operation with other organisations. - Created the Emerald Network, an ecological network made up of Areas of Special Conservation Interest.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

Bali Road Map (2007)	The Bali Road Map includes the Bali Action Plan, which charts the course for a new negotiating process designed to tackle climate change. The Bali Action Plan is a comprehensive process to enable the full, effective and sustained implementation of the Convention through long-term cooperative action, now, up to and beyond 2012, in order to reach an agreed outcome and adopt a decision.	The Bali Action Plan is divided into five main categories: shared vision, mitigation, adaptation, technology and financing. The shared vision refers to a long-term vision for action on climate change, including a long-term goal for emission reductions.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Cancun Agreements (2010)	Set of decisions taken at the COP 16 Conference in Cancun in 2010, which addresses a series of key issues in the fight against climate change. Cancun Agreements' main objectives cover: • Mitigation • Transparency of actions • Technology • Finance • Adaptation • Forests • Capacity building	Among the most prominent agreements is the establishment of a Green Climate Fund to transfer money from the developed to developing world to tackle the impacts of climate change.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Doha Climate Gateway (2012)	Set of decisions taken at the COP 18 meeting in Doha in 2012 which pave the way for a new agreement in Paris in 2015.	Among the many decisions taken, governments: • Strengthened their resolve and set out a timetable to adopt a universal climate agreement by 2015, which will come into effect in 2020. • Streamlined the negotiations, completing the work under the Bali Action Plan to concentrate on the new work towards a 2015 agreement under a single negotiating stream in the Ad hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action. • Emphasized the need to increase their ambition to cut greenhouse gases and to help vulnerable countries to adapt. • Launched a new commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol, thereby ensuring that this treaty's important legal and accounting models remain in place and underlining the principle that developed countries lead mandated action to cut greenhouse gas emissions. • Made further progress towards establishing the financial and technology support and new institutions to enable clean energy investments and sustainable growth in developing countries.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) (2001)	The Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants is a global treaty to protect human health and the environment from chemicals that remain intact in the environment for long periods, become widely distributed geographically, accumulate in the fatty tissue of humans and wildlife, and have harmful impacts on human health or on the environment. The objective of the Stockholm Convention is to protect human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants.	• Prohibit and/or eliminate the production and use, as well as the import and export, of the intentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex A to the Convention • Restrict the production and use, as well as the import and export, of the intentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex B to the Convention • Reduce or eliminate releases from unintentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex C to the Convention • Ensure that stockpiles and wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with POPs are managed safely and in an environmentally sound manner • Other provisions of the Convention relate to the development of implementation plans, information exchange, public information, awareness and education, research, development and monitoring, technical assistance, financial resources and mechanisms, reporting, effectiveness evaluation and non-compliance	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Ramsar Convention (1971)	The Convention's mission is <i>"the conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local and national actions and international cooperation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world"</i> .	Under the "three pillars" of the Convention, the Contracting Parties commit to: • Work towards the wise use of all their wetlands; • Designate suitable wetlands for the list of Wetlands of International Importance (the "Ramsar List") and ensure their effective management; • Cooperate internationally on transboundary wetlands, shared wetland systems and shared species.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

OSPAR Convention (1992)	The mission of OSPAR is to conserve marine ecosystems and safeguard human health in the North-East Atlantic by preventing and eliminating pollution; by protecting the marine environment from the adverse effects of human activities; and by contributing to the sustainable use of the seas.	OSPAR's work is organised under six strategies: • Biodiversity and Ecosystem Strategy • Eutrophication Strategy • Hazardous Substances Strategy • Offshore Industry Strategy • Radioactive Substances Strategy • Strategy for the Joint Assessment and Monitoring Programme These six strategies fit together to underpin the ecosystem approach. For each strategy a programme of work is designed and implemented annually.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Level			
The National Planning Framework (first revision 2025) and associated National Development Plan Review (2025)	The National Planning Framework is the Government's high-level strategic plan for shaping the future growth and development of to the year 2040. The new 2025 Framework is revised and updated to take account of changes that have occurred since it was published in 2018 and to build on the framework that is in place. It is a framework to guide public and private investment, to create and promote opportunities for the people, and to protect and enhance the environment. The National Planning Framework and the National Development Plan form a single vision for Ireland under Project Ireland 2040. The implementation of the National Planning Framework will continue to be fully supported by the Government's investment strategy for public capital investment and investment by the State sector in general, with the National Development Plan detailing key projects.	The ambition is to create a single vision, a shared set of goals for every community across the country. These goals are expressed in the Framework as National Strategic Outcomes: 1. Compact Growth 2. Enhanced Regional Accessibility 3. Strengthened Rural Economies and Communities 4. High-Quality International Connectivity 5. Sustainable Mobility 6. A Strong Economy, supported by Enterprise, Innovation and Skills 7. Enhanced Amenities and Heritage 8. Transition to a Carbon Neutral and Climate-Resilient Society 9. Sustainable Management of Environmental Resources 10. Access to Quality Childcare, Education and Health Services	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)	An Act to consolidate and revise the law relating to planning and development; to provide for proper planning and sustainable development in the interests of the common good; to provide for the licensing of events and control of funfairs; for those purposes to repeal and replace the Planning and Development Act 2000; to amend certain other enactments; and to provide for matters connected therewith.	• Development, with certain exceptions, is subject to development control under the Planning Acts and the local authorities grant or refuse planning permission for development, including ones within protected areas. • There are, however, a range of exemptions from the planning system. Use of land for agriculture, peat extraction and afforestation, subject to certain thresholds, is generally exempt from the requirement to obtain planning permission. • Additionally, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is required for a range of classes and large-scale projects. • Under planning legislation, Development Plans must include mandatory objectives for the conservation of the natural heritage and for the conservation of European sites and any other sites which may be prescribed. There are also discretionary powers to set objectives for the conservation of a variety of other elements of the natural heritage.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Planning and Development Act 2024 (as amended)	An Act to consolidate and revise the law relating to planning and development; to provide for proper planning and sustainable development in the interests of the common good; to provide for the licensing of events and control of funfairs; for those purposes to repeal and replace the Planning and Development Act 2000 and amend certain other enactments; for purposes unrelated to the foregoing, to amend the Residential Tenancies Act 2004, the Residential Tenancies (Amendment) Act 2019, the Land Development Agency Act 2021 and the National Asset Management Agency Act 2009; and to provide for matters connected therewith.	Key reforms included in the Act: • The introduction of statutory timelines for all consenting processes, to give confidence and certainty to applicants; • A significant reorganisation of An Bord Pleanála, to be known as An Coimisiún Pleanála; • Greater mandatory alignment of all tiers of planning, improving consistency; • Improvements to the planning judicial review processes; • Clearer, more consistent policies and guidance; • Longer term, more strategic, ten-year plans for Local Authorities; • More agile local implementation, through the introduction of Urban and Priority Area Plans, including new bespoke plans for Gaeltacht and Island communities; • Creation of Urban Development Zones, which will facilitate a more plan-led approach to development, increasing certainty at the master-planning stage; • Provisions to deter abuse of planning processes through spurious planning submissions and appeals, as well as a ban on requesting payment for not opposing development and; • Ability to suspend the duration of a permission while subject to judicial review proceedings, so as not to lose any time available for completing the development.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (S.I. 435 of 2004), as amended	The purpose of these Regulations is to transpose into Irish law Directive 2001/42/EC of 27 June 2001 (O.J. No. L 197, 21 July 2001) on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment — commonly known as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive.	• The Regulations cover plans and programmes in all of the sectors listed in article 3(2) of the Directive except land-use planning. • These Regulations also amend certain provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000 to provide the statutory basis for the transposition of the Directive in respect of land-use planning. • Transposition in respect of the land-use planning sector is contained in the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 436 of 2004).	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

S.I. No. 456 of 2025, the European Union (Land Use Planning – Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2025	S.I. No. 456 of 2025, the European Union (Land Use Planning – Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2025, came into effect on 2 October 2025 to update SEA requirements for land-use plans. These regulations replace S.I. No. 436 of 2004, mandating environmental assessments for regional strategies, development plans, and certain planning schemes to ensure environmental protection.	These Regulations detail requirements for SEA, including the determination of need for assessment, the assessment process itself, the content and scoping of environmental reports, consultation procedures, handling transboundary effects, decision-making processes, information disclosure, monitoring and joint or coordinated assessments. Further explanation of the Regulations can be found in the attached Appendix. The Regulations include a new provision (Regulation 14) to allow for the carrying out of joint or coordinated assessments where both a SEA and an Appropriate Assessment are required.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477 of 2011), as amended	These Regulations provide a new for the implementation in Ireland of Council Directive 92/43/EEC on habitats and protection of wild fauna and flora (as amended) and for the implementation of Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of wild birds.	• They provide, among other things, for: the appointment and functions of authorized officers; identification, classification and other procedures relative to the designation of Community sites. • The Regulations have been prepared to address several judgments of the CJEU against Ireland, notably cases C-418/04 and C-183/05, in respect of failure to transpose elements of the Birds Directive and the Habitats Directive into Irish law.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Communities Environmental Objectives (FPM) Regulations 2009 (S.I. 296 of 2009)	The purpose of these Regulations is to support the achievement of favourable conservation status for freshwater pearl mussels,	• Set environmental quality objectives for the habitats of the freshwater pearl mussel populations named in the First Schedule to these Regulations that are within the boundaries of a site notified in a candidate list of European sites, or designated as a Special Area of Conservation, under the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations, 1997 (S.I. No. 94/1997). • Require the production of sub-basin management plans with programmes of measures to achieve these objectives. • Set out the duties of public authorities in respect of the sub-basin management plans and programmes of measure.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010 (S.I. 9 of 2010), as amended	To amend the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010 (S.I. No. 9 of 2010) to make further provision to implement Commission Directive 2014/80/EU of 20 June 2014 amending Annex II to Directive 2006/118/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration.	The substances and threshold values set out in Schedule 5 to S.I. No. 9 of 2010 have been reviewed and amended where necessary, based on existing monitoring information and international guidelines on appropriate threshold values. • Part A of Schedule 6 has been amended to include changes to the rules governing the determination of background levels for the purposes of establishing threshold values for groundwater pollutants and indicators of pollution. • Part B of Schedule 6 has been amended to include nitrites and phosphorus (total) / phosphates among the minimum list of pollutants and their indicators which the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) must consider when establishing threshold values. • Part C of Schedule 6 amends the information to be provided to the Minister by the EPA with regard to the pollutants and their indicators for which threshold values have been established.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (S.I. 722 of 2003) European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (S.I. 350 of 2014) European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface waters) Regulations of 2009 (S.I. 272 of 2009)	• Transpose the Water Framework Directive into legislation. • Outlines the general duty of public authorities in relation to water. • Identifies the competent authorities in charge of water policy (amended to Irish Water in 2013) and gives EPA and the CER the authority to regulate and supervise their actions.	• Implements River basin districts and characterisation of RBDs and River Basin Management Plans. • Requires the public to be informed and consulted on the Plan and for progress reports to be published on RBDs. • Implements a Register of protected areas, Classification systems and Monitoring programmes for water bodies. • Allows the competent authority to recover the cost of damage/destruction of status of water body. • Outlines environmental objectives and programme of measures and environmental quality standards for priority substances. • Outlines criteria for assessment of groundwater. • Outlines environmental objectives to be achieved for surface water bodies. • Outlines surface water quality standards. • Establishes threshold values for the classification and protection of surface waters against pollution and deterioration in quality.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

Water Pollution Acts 1977 to 1990	The Water Pollution Acts allow Local Authorities the authority regulate and supervise actions relating to water in their division.	The Water Pollution Acts enable local authorities to: - Prosecute for water pollution offences. - Attach appropriate pollution control conditions in the licensing of effluent discharges from industry, etc., made to waters. - Issue notices ("section 12 notices") to farmers, etc., specifying measures to be taken within a prescribed period to prevent water pollution. - Issue notices requiring a person to cease the pollution of waters and requiring the mitigation or remedying of any effects of the pollution in the manner and within the period specified in such notices; - Seek court orders, including High Court injunctions, to prevent, terminate, mitigate or remedy pollution/its effects. - Prepare water quality management plans for any waters in or adjoining their functional areas.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Water Services Act 2007 (No. 30 of 2007) Water Services Act 2013 (No. 6 of 2013) Water Services (No. 2) Act 2013 (No. 50 of 2013) Water Services Act 2017 (No. 29 of 2017) Water Services (Amendment) Act 2022 (No. 39 of 2022)	- Provides the water services infrastructure. - Outlines the responsibilities involved in delivering and managing water services. - Identifies the authority in charge of provision of water and waste water supply. Irish Water was given the responsibility of the provision of water and waste water services in the amendment act during 2013, therefore these services are no longer the responsibility of the 34 Local Authorities in Ireland.	Key strategic objectives include: - Ensuring Uisce Éireann delivers infrastructural projects that meet key public health, environmental and economic objectives in the water services sector. - Ensuring the provision of adequate water and sewerage services in the gateways and hubs listed in the National Spatial Strategy, and in other locations where services need to be enhanced. - Ensuring good quality drinking water is available to all consumers of public and group water supplies, in compliance with national and EU drinking water standards - Ensuring the provision of the remaining infrastructure needed to provide secondary waste water treatment, for compliance with the requirements of the EU Urban Waste water Treatment Directive.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Irish Water's Water Services Strategic Plan 2015 and Capital Investment Plan 2020-2024	This Water Services Strategic Plan sets out strategic objectives for the delivery of water services over the next 25 years up to 2040. It details current and future challenges which affect the provision of water services and identifies the priorities to be tackled in the short and medium term. The Capital Investment Plan 2020-2024 is Uisce Éireann investment plan for water and wastewater assets and infrastructure for the next 5 years. The Capital Investment Plan sets out where to prioritise investment to deliver the most urgently needed improvements in drinking water quality, leakage reduction, water availability, wastewater compliance, efficiencies and customer service.	The Capital Investment Plan 2020-2024 is made up of investment in individual projects such as building new or upgrading existing water and wastewater treatment plants and upgrading existing networks, and national programmes where activities are being delivered in a consistent and efficient manner across the country. Some examples of these programmes are the Leakage Reduction Programme, the National Disinfection Programme, the Small Towns and Villages Growth Programme, and the National Certification Authorisation Programme.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023-2030 and associated Implementation Plan including the National Forestry Programme 2023-2027	The Implementation Plan will facilitate the initial steps in the implementation of the Strategy on the road to achieving the Shared Vision for 2050. The Implementation Plan includes the new Forestry Programme (2023 – 2027), which will be the primary implementation mechanism for the Forest Strategy. The Plan also includes a list of actions that will be funded and enabled by mechanisms outside of the Forestry Programme.	The Forestry Programme 2023-2027 was created in alignment with Ireland's Forest Strategy and is designed to provide lasting benefits for many key areas including climate change, biodiversity, wood production, and employment alongside enhancing societal benefits. The Forestry Programme will provide incentives for farmers and other landowners and will provide farm families with the opportunity to increase and diversify their income streams.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Water Action Plan 2024: River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2022-2027 (3rd Cycle) (2024)	The Water Action Plan 2024 is Ireland's third River Basin Management Plan and it outlines the measures the Government and other sectors are taking to improve water quality in Ireland's groundwater, rivers, lakes, estuarine and coastal waters, and provide sustainable management of our water resources (as specified under SDG 6). This Water Action Plan enhances and builds upon the work of the first and second-cycle plans. Where necessary, this plan addresses the shortcomings experienced during the implementation of previous plans.	The responses to shortcomings addressed include, for example, strengthen the incorporation of the integrated catchment management approach, improving the environmental ambition, improving the evidence base for 'targeting the right measures in the right place' and securing dedicated resources to deliver these, increasing environmental enforcement and compliance, and strengthening the governance structures.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

Ireland's National Water Quality Monitoring Programme 2022-2027	The main purpose of Ireland's National Water Quality Monitoring Programme 2022-2027 is to provide a comprehensive national overview of the ecological and chemical status of surface waters and the quantitative and chemical status of groundwaters. The information is used to track progress towards the achievement of the environmental objectives required by the Water Framework Directive, and those set out in the River Basin Management Plan.	The programme is comprised of 2,899 surface and groundwater bodies representing 60% of the total number of national water bodies, covering 2,429 river water bodies, 224 lakes, 80 transitional water bodies, 45 coastal waters, 16 canals and 121 groundwater bodies. The programme is operated by the Environmental Protection Agency, Marine Institute, Inland Fisheries Ireland, Waterways Ireland, National Parks and Wildlife Service and Local Authorities.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Water Resources Plan (NWRP) – Framework Plan (2021)	The NWRP is a plan on how to provide a safe, secure and reliable water supply to customers for the next 25 years, without causing adverse impact on the environment. The objective of the NWRP is to set out how we intend to maintain the supply and demand for drinking water over the short, medium and long term whilst minimising the impact on the environment. The preparation of the plan has been divided into two distinct phases, the combination of which will become the final NWRP. Phase 1 was carried out in 2021 and the NWRP Framework has been adopted. In Phase 2 of the NWRP, Uisce Éireann summarised the needs across the 539 individual water supplies and identified the solutions to address these needs. Due to the large number of supplies in Ireland, Phase 2 was delivered as four Regional Water Resources Plans: - Regional Water Resources Plan: North West (RWRP NW) - Regional Water Resources Plan: South West (RWRP SW) - Regional Water Resources Plan: South East (RWRP SE) - Regional Water Resources Plan: Eastern and Midlands (RWRP EM)	The key objectives are to: - Identify areas where there are current and future potential water supply shortfalls, taking into account normal and extreme weather conditions - Assess the current and future water demand from homes, businesses, farms, and industry - Consider the impacts of climate change on Ireland's water resources - Develop a drought plan advising measures to be taken before and during drought events - Develop a plan detailing how we deal with the material that is produced as a result of treating drinking water - Assess the water resources available at a national level including lakes, rivers and groundwater	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Strategic Plan for Sustainable Aquaculture Development 2030	The national plans are intended to inform investment priorities for aquaculture under Member States' operational programmes under the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund. They are also intended to identify measures to reduce the administrative burden on operators, to secure sustainable development and growth of aquaculture through coordinated spatial planning, to enhance the competitiveness of the aquaculture sector and to promote a level playing field for EU operators by exploiting their competitive advantages. Ireland's National Strategic Plan for Sustainable Aquaculture Development was finalised following public consultation earlier in 2022. The Plan was adopted by the European Commission in 2022.	The National Strategic Plan for Sustainable Aquaculture Development proposes 58 actions to be implemented over the period up to 2030.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Aquaculture Acts 1997 to 2006 (Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006 (8/2006), s. 1(3)) Fisheries (Amendment) Act 1997 (23/1997) Fisheries and Foreshore (Amendment) Act 1998 (54/1998), ss. 2, 3 and 4 Fisheries (Amendment) Act 2001 (40/2001) Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006 (8/2006)	The Aquaculture and Foreshore Management Division ensures the efficient and effective management of Aquaculture licensing and Foreshore licensing in respect of Aquaculture and Sea Fishery related activities.	The Strategic Objectives of the Aquaculture and Foreshore Management Division are: - to develop and manage an efficient and effective regulatory framework in respect of Aquaculture licensing and Foreshore licensing of Aquaculture and Sea Fishery related activities; - to secure a fair financial return from the State's foreshore estate in the context of Aquaculture licensing and Foreshore licensing in respect of Aquaculture and Sea Fishery related activities; - to progressively reduce arrears in the clearing of licence applications.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Foreshore Acts 1933 to 2011	The Foreshore Acts require that a lease or licence must be obtained from the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government for the carrying out of works or placing structures or material on, or for the occupation of or removal of material from, State-owned foreshore, which represents the greater part of the foreshore. Construction of permanent structures on privately owned foreshore also required the prior permission of the Minister under the Foreshore Act.	Developments on the foreshore require planning permission in addition to a Foreshore Lease/Licence/Permission. All Foreshore Leases, Licences Permissions are without prejudice to the powers of the local planning authority. Applicants should, therefore, consult initially with the local planning authority regarding their proposal. In the case of developments on foreshore for, by or on behalf of a Local Authority where an EIS is required, applications should be made to An Bord Pleanála under Part XV, Planning and Development Act 2000.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

National Marine Planning Framework (NMPF) (2024)	The NMPF details how marine activities will interact with each other in an ocean space that is under increasing spatial pressure, ensuring the sustainable use of Ireland's marine resources to 2040. The NMPF has been prepared with an ecosystem-based approach and informed by best available knowledge.	The National Marine Planning Framework (NMPF) brings together all marine-based human activities for the first time, outlining the Government's vision, objectives and marine planning policies for each marine activity. The NMPF is intended as the marine equivalent to the National Planning Framework. This approach will enable the Government to: • set a clear direction for managing our seas • clarify objectives and priorities • direct decision makers, users and stakeholders towards strategic, plan-led, and efficient use of our marine resources	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Seafood Development Programme 2021-2027	Based on the challenges identified for the seafood sector and coastal communities and the policy context, Ireland's Programme requires an ambitious vision to: "To support a resilient, climate smart, environmentally sustainable and profitable Irish seafood sector in order to maximise its contribution to jobs and growth and maintain the economic and social activities of our most vibrant and sustainable coastal communities"	The Programme details the vision and key missions to be achieved by the implementation of the programme. It also demonstrates how the strategic objectives of the EMFAF fund (specified in Regulation (EU) 2021/1139) will be employed in fulfilling the Programme.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Harnessing Our Ocean Wealth: An Integrated Marine Plan for Ireland 2012	Harnessing Our Ocean Wealth is an Integrated Marine Plan (IMP), setting out a roadmap for the Government's vision, high-level goals and integrated actions across policy, governance and business to enable our marine potential to be realised. Implementation of this Plan will see Ireland evolve an integrated system of policy and programme planning for our marine affairs.	• Sustainable economic growth of marine/ maritime sectors; • Increase the contribution to the national GDP; • Deliver a business friendly yet robust governance, policy and planning framework; • Protect and conserve our rich marine biodiversity and ecosystems; • Manage our living and non-living resources in harmony with the ecosystem; • Implement and comply with environmental legislation; • Building on our maritime heritage, strengthen our maritime identity; • Increase our awareness of the value, opportunities and societal benefits; and • Engagement and participation by all.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Flood Risk Management Plans arising from National Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Programme	The national Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) programme commenced in Ireland in 2011 and is being overseen by the Office of Public Works. The CFRAM Programme is intended to deliver on core components of the National Flood Policy, adopted in 2004, and on the requirements of the EU Floods Directive.	CFRAM Studies have been undertaken for all River Basin Districts. The studies are focusing on areas known to have experienced flooding in the past and areas that may be subject to flooding in the future either due to development pressures or climate change. Flood Risk and Hazard mapping, including Flood Extent Mapping, was finalised in 2017. The final outputs from the studies are the CFRAM Plans, finalised in 2018. The Plans define the current and future flood risk in the River Basin Districts and set out how this risk can be managed.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Raised Bog Special Areas of Conservation Management Plan 2017 – 2022 and a Review of Raised Bog Natural Heritage Area Network	The National Raised Bog Special Areas of Conservation Management Plan 2017 - 2022 sets out a roadmap for the long-term management, restoration and conservation of protected raised bogs in Ireland.	The Plan is part of the measures being implemented in response to the on-going infringement action against Ireland in relation to the implementation of the EU Habitats Directive, with regard to the regulation of turf cutting on the Special Areas of Conservation and on foot of the recommendation of Mr. Justice Quirke that a National Raised Bog SAC Management Plan be drawn up, arising from the Peatlands Forum (2012).	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

National Peatlands Strategy (2015-2025)	This Strategy aims to provide a long-term framework within which all of the peatlands within the State can be managed responsibly in order to optimise their social, environmental and economic contribution to the well-being of this and future generations.	Objectives of the Strategy: - To give direction to Ireland's approach to peatland management. - To apply to all peatlands, including peat soils. - To ensure that the relevant State authorities and state-owned companies that influence such decisions contribute to meeting cross-cutting objectives and obligations in their policies and actions. - To ensure that Ireland's peatlands are sustainably managed so that their benefits can be enjoyed responsibly. - To inform appropriate regulatory systems to facilitate good decision making in support of responsible use. - To inform the provision of appropriate incentives, financial supports and disincentives where required.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Union (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations 2022 (S.I. No. 113/2022)	The purpose of these Regulations is to give effect to Ireland's Nitrates Action Programme pursuant to Council Directive 91/676/EEC concerning the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural source.	Part 2 concerns farmyard management. The Part requires an occupier of a holding shall take all such steps, as far as is practicable for the purposes of minimising the amount of soiled water produced on the holding; livestock manure and other organic fertilisers, soiled water and effluents from dungsteeds, farmyard manure pits, silage pits or silage clamps arising or produced in a building or yard on a holding shall, prior to its application to land or other treatment, be collected and held in a manner that prevents the run-off or seepage, directly or indirectly, into groundwaters or surface waters of such substances. The Regulations provides for general obligations related to capacity of storage facilities and then distinguishes among requirements for storage facilities of: effluents and soiled water; pig manure; poultry manure; manure from deer, goats and sheep; manure from cattle. Part 3 concerns nutrient management. Part 4 is focused on the prevention of water pollution from fertilizers and certain activities; this includes the distances from a water body and other issues requirements as to manner of application of fertilizers, soiled water etc; periods when application of fertilizers is prohibited; limits on the amount of livestock manure to be applied. Part 5 regulates general duty of occupier, such as keeping of records, etc. Offences and related matters. Part 6 is functions of the public authorities: certificates, exemptions, etc.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
European Union (Birds and Natural Habitats) (Sea-Fisheries) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 (S.I. 565 of 2014)	These Regulations the European Union (Birds and Natural Habitats) (Sea-fisheries) Regulations 2013 so as to apply them to the regulation of sea-fishing activity in so far as the regulation of that activity is necessary to secure compliance with the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 and the objectives of the Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.	- Regulation 3 provides for the submission of a Fisheries Natura Plan in relation to planned fisheries; - Regulation 4 provides for a screening of a Fisheries Natura Plan to determine whether or not an appropriate assessment is required; - Regulation 5 provides for an appropriate assessment of a Fisheries Natura Plan and also provides for public and statutory consultation; - Regulation 6 provides for the Minister to make a determination to adopt a Fisheries Natura Plan. The Minister may amend, withdraw or revoke a plan; - Regulation 7 provides for publication of the adopted Fisheries Natura Plan; - Regulation 8 provides for a Risk Assessment of unplanned fisheries and also provides for public and statutory consultation on the assessment; - Regulation 9 provides for the issue of a Natura Declaration to prohibit, restrict including restricting by permit, control, etc. of sea fishing activities; - Regulation 10 provides for Natura Permits to be issued where required by Natura Declarations; and - Regulations 11 to 31 deal with functions of authorised officers and related matters, offences, etc.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Wildlife Act of 1976 Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000 Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2023	The act provides protection and conservation of wild flora and fauna. The Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2023 introduced a new public sector duty on biodiversity. The legislation provides that every public body, as listed in the Act, is obliged to have regard to the objectives and targets in the National Biodiversity Action Plan.	- Provides protection for certain species, their habitats and important ecosystems - Give statutory protection to NHAs - Enhances wildlife species and their habitats - Includes more species for protection	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2030	Ireland's 4 th National Biodiversity Action Plan sets the national biodiversity agenda for the period 2023-2030 and aims to deliver the transformative changes required to the ways in which we value and protect nature.	This National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2030 builds upon the achievements of the previous Plan. It will continue to implement actions within the framework of five strategic objectives, while addressing new and emerging issues: Objective 1 - Adopt a Whole of Government, Whole of Society Approach to Biodiversity Objective 2 - Meet Urgent Conservation and Restoration Needs Objective 3 - Secure Nature's Contribution to People Objective 4 - Enhance the Evidence Base for Action on Biodiversity Objective 5 - Strengthen Ireland's Contribution to International Biodiversity	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
All Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021-2025	The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan is an island-wide attempt to reverse declines in pollinating insects to ensure the sustainability of our food, avoid additional economic impacts on agriculture, and protect the health of the environment. The main objectives include: • Making farmland, public land and private land in Ireland pollinator friendly; • Raising awareness of pollinators and how to protect them; • Managed pollinators – supporting beekeepers and growers; • Expanding our knowledge of pollinators and pollination service; and • Collecting evidence to track change and measure success.	This voluntary Plan identified 81 actions, shared out between over 100 governmental and non-governmental organisations. A large focus of the Plan is to identify actions to improve the quality and amount of flower-rich habitat. Actions range from creating pollinator highways along our transport routes, to supporting pollinators on farmland, in gardens, businesses, and on public land.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015 (as amended)	An Act to provide for the approval of plans by the Government in relation to climate change for the purpose of pursuing the transition to a low carbon, climate resilient and environmentally sustainable economy.	When considering a plan or framework, for approval, the Government shall endeavour to achieve the national transition objective within the period to which the objective relates and shall, in endeavouring to achieve that objective, ensure that such objective is achieved by the implementation of measures that are cost effective and shall, for that purpose, have regard to: • The ultimate objective specified in Article 2 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change done at New York on 9 May 1992 and any mitigation commitment entered into by the European Union in response or otherwise in relation to that objective, • The policy of the Government on climate change, • Climate justice, • Any existing obligation of the State under the law of the European Union or any • international agreement referred to in section 2; and • The most recent national greenhouse gas emissions inventory and projection of future greenhouse gas emissions, prepared by the Agency.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Climate Action Plans	The National Climate Action Plan 2023 provided a detailed plan for taking decisive action to achieve a 51% reduction in overall greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and setting Ireland on a path to reach net-zero emissions by no later than 2050, as committed to in the Programme for Government and set out in the Climate Act 2021. The Climate Action Plan 2024 builds upon the 2023 Plan by refining and updating the measures and actions required to deliver the carbon budgets and sectoral emissions ceilings. The Climate Action Plan 2025 is the third statutory annual update to the Climate Action Plan.	The Climate Action Plans list the actions needed to deliver on Ireland's climate targets and sets indicative ranges of emissions reductions for each sector of the economy. It will be updated periodically to ensure alignment with Ireland's legally binding economy-wide carbon budgets and sectoral ceilings. Climate Action Plan 2025 lays out a roadmap of actions that are intended to lead to meeting the national climate objective of pursuing and achieving, by no later than the end of the year 2050, the transition to a climate resilient, biodiversity rich, environmentally sustainable and climate neutral economy. It aligns with legally binding economy-wide carbon budgets and sectoral emissions ceilings. Climate Action Plan 2025 builds upon the Climate Action Plan 2024 by refining and updating the measures and actions required to deliver the carbon budgets and sectoral emissions ceilings and it should be read in conjunction with Climate Action Plan 2024. The Plan provides a roadmap for taking decisive action to halve Ireland's emissions by 2030 and achieve climate neutrality by no later than 2050, as committed to in the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Adaptation Framework (NAF) 2024 and associated regional, local and sectoral adaptation plans	NAF specifies the national strategy for the application of adaptation measures in different sectors and by local authorities in their administrative areas in order to reduce the vulnerability of the State to the negative effects of climate change and to avail of any positive effects that may occur.	• Adaptation under this Framework should seek to minimise costs and maximise the opportunities arising from climate change. • Adaptation actions range from building adaptive capacity (e.g. increasing awareness, sharing information and targeted training) through to policy and finance-based actions. • Adaptation actions must be risk based, informed by existing vulnerabilities of our society and systems and an understanding of projected climate change. • Adaptation actions taken to increase climate resilience must also consider impacts on other sectors and levels of governance	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

National Climate Mitigation Plan 2017	The Plan represents an initial step to set Ireland on a pathway to achieve the deep decarbonisation required in Ireland by mid-century in line with the Government's policy objectives.	The National Mitigation Plan focuses on the following issues: • Climate Action Policy Framework • Decarbonising Electricity Generation • Decarbonising the Built Environment • Decarbonising Transport • An Approach to Carbon Neutrality for Agriculture, Forest and Land Use Sectors	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Climate Adaptation Sectoral Adaptation Plans	The Climate Act sets out the requirements for the preparation of Sectoral Adaptation Plans. The 12 priority sectors identified in the 2018 NAF were grouped into 9 such Plans and clustered into four themes covering natural and cultural capital, critical infrastructure, water resource and flood risk management, and public health. This approach aims to provide a structured and systematic approach to sectoral developments.	To support key national sectors in planning for climate change adaptation and according to the requirements of the National Adaptation Framework (2018), sectoral planning guidelines were developed as part of the Irish Climate Information Platform, Climate Ireland project. The guidelines aim to ensure that a coherent and consistent approach to adaptation planning is adopted at national and local levels. Since the guidelines' publication in May 2018, they have been successfully implemented by relevant Departments to develop Sectoral Adaptation Plans.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Sustainable Mobility Policy (SMP) (2022)	It sets out a strategic framework to 2030 for active travel (walking and cycling) and public transport journeys to help Ireland meet its climate obligations. It is framed around three key principles that will guide the delivery of sustainable mobility policy over the coming decade. They are: • Safe and green mobility; • People focussed mobility; and • Better integrated mobility.	The SMP includes an Action Plan covering the period 2022-2025 with 91 actions, supporting behavioural change across a wide range of interventions including, among other things, public transport infrastructure and services, active travel promotion and supports, road safety initiatives, legislative measures, research, and public engagement. The Policy also supports the implementation of large-scale transport projects including MetroLink and DART+ in Dublin, BusConnects in the five cities, the Connecting Ireland scheme in rural areas, and an Active Travel Infrastructure Programme providing high-quality cycling infrastructure across the country.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy 2022-2025 and associated implementation plan	It sets out a pathway for the delivery of EV charge point infrastructure, including the rollout of EV infrastructure as required under the EU's Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Regulation (AFIR), where a 300% increase in the amount of public recharging infrastructure is targeted for delivery.	The strategy takes a people-first approach, focusing on the different transport needs across the country and is being informed by the piloting of different technologies and charging options in Ireland. An Implementation Plan has also been developed in conjunction with the strategy to provide an initial set of actions and deliverables to support the strategy's delivery. This includes the development of the National Road Network EV Charging Plan and the Regional and Local EV Charging Network Plan.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Renewable Transport Fuel Policy 2025-2027	The Renewable Transport Fuel Policy 2025-2027 sets out a pathway for achievement of Climate Action Plan biofuel targets as well as delivery of the targets and requirements for renewable energy share in transport under the European Union Renewable Energy Directive, including EU requirements for sustainability certification and greenhouse gas reduction.	The Department updates the policy every two years to ensure it remains agile and responsive to market trends and other variables impacting on the achievement of the objectives set out. The latest iteration of the policy explores potential for further deployment of renewable fuels for all transport modes, incentivises increased supply of advanced biofuels and renewable fuels of non-biological origin, and seeks to strengthen sustainability assurance mechanisms within EU frameworks and continue to ensure policy is grounded on latest research and market developments. The policy contains 19 actions aimed at delivering on the objectives set out over the next two years.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

National Energy Security Framework (2022)	National Energy Security Framework provides an overarching and comprehensive response to Ireland's energy security needs in the context of the war in Ukraine. The Framework outlines the structures which are in place within Government to monitor and manage our energy supplies. It sets out the plans which are in place to deal with energy security emergencies should they arise, and outlines out how these plans will be tested in light of the war in Ukraine.	The Framework sets out the government's action in response to these issues across three key themes: - managing the impact on consumers and businesses, with a specific focus on financially vulnerable residential consumers in the short-term - ensuring security of energy supply in the near term, with a focus on the period up to and including winter 2022/23 - reducing our dependency on imported fossil fuels, in the context of the phasing out of Russian energy imports across the EU	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Ireland's National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP) 2021-2030 (updated 2024)	National Energy and Climate Plans are the framework within which EU Member States must notify their climate and energy objectives, targets, policies, and measures to the European Commission and were established under Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action. Member States are required to develop NECPs on a ten-year rolling basis. The aim of the plans is to outline our energy and climate policies in detail for the period from 2021 to 2030 and provide projections and ambitions towards 2050. Under the Regulation, Member States are also required to update their initial plans after 5 years, this is the first update of the initial NECP which was published in 2019. The NECP covers five dimensions of the Energy Union: - Decarbonisation - Energy Efficiency - Energy Security - Internal Energy Market - Research, Innovation and Competitiveness The NECP brings together the policies, targets, tools and associated material relating to our climate and energy obligations under various EU Regulations and Directives from across government bodies and departments into one document. It reflects our ambitions and provides certainty to investors and policymakers that we are committed to EU-wide targets and ambitions to move towards becoming a carbon-neutral society.	It outlines our department's energy and climate policies in detail for the period from 2021 to 2030 and looks onwards to 2050. The NECP collates the policies, measures and actions related to energy and climate outlined in a range of government plans: such as the Climate Action Plan, the National Development Plan, and Project Ireland 2040, into one cohesive document. It also presents modelling that illustrates Ireland's current trajectories toward its three main European targets. The NECP reflects the ambitions set out in Climate Action Plan 2024. The NECP will act to identify gaps and areas that Ireland can improve on, which should be reflected in updated policies and measures in subsequent Climate Action Plans. The policies outlined in the NECP reflect the ambition of Climate Action Plan 2024.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Implementation Plan for the Sustainable Development Goals 2022-2024	It is the second National Implementation Plan for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals reviews the progress made towards each of the 17 Goals.	The Plan sets out five strategic objectives and 51 actions, with 119 individual measures to increase Ireland's ambition and strengthen implementation structures to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It also incorporates 23 external actions from four other National Plans or Strategies which contribute to and are complementary to the objectives of this Plan and which have been included for coherence and reporting purposes. Strategic Objective 1: To embed the SDG framework into the work of Government Departments to achieve greater Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development Strategic Objective 2: To integrate the SDGs into Local Authority work to better support the localisation of the SDGs Strategic Objective 3: Greater partnerships for the Goals Strategic Objective 4: To further incorporate the principle of Leave No One Behind into Ireland's Agenda 2030 implementation and reporting mechanisms Strategic Objective 5: Strong reporting mechanisms	Implementation of the Strategy needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Planning, Land Use and Transport Outlook 2040	The PLUTO takes account of forecasted future economic and demographic scenarios, affordability considerations and relevant Government policies.	The PLUTO seeks to: 1. Quantify in broad terms the appropriate scale of financial investment in land transport over the long term; 2. Consider how fiscal, environmental and technological developments might impact on this investment; and, 3. Identify strategic priorities for future investment to ensure land transport infrastructure provision facilitates the objectives of Project Ireland 2040.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland (NIFTI) (2021)	The high-level strategic framework for prioritising future investment in the land transport network. This new framework is the Department of Transport's contribution to Project Ireland 2040, Government's long-term strategy for accommodating population growth in a sustainable manner and making Ireland a better country for all of its people. It has been developed to ensure that our transport sectoral strategy is underpinned by and supports the achievement of the spatial objectives and National Strategic Objectives set out in the National Planning Framework.	The framework establishes high-level investment priorities to efficiently and effectively address key transport challenges identified by the background analysis and to ensure that transport investment is aligned with and supports Government's overarching spatial and climate change objectives, as articulated in the National Planning Framework and Climate Action Plan.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Investing in our Future: A Strategic Framework for Investment in Land Transport (SFILT) – Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport	SFILT sets out a set of priorities to guide the allocation of the State's investment to best develop and manage Ireland's land transport network over the coming decades.	The three priorities stated in SFILT are: • Priority 1: Achieve steady state maintenance (meaning that the maintenance and renewal of the existing transport system is at a sufficient level to maintain the system in an adequate condition); • Priority 2: Address urban congestion; and • Priority 3: Maximise the value of the road network. In delivering on the steady state maintenance objective set out in SFILT, the Plan includes for: • Planned replacement programme for the bus fleet operated under Public Service Obligation ("PSO") contracts; • Tram refurbishment and asset renewal in the case of light rail; and • To the extent within the Authority' remit, support for the operation of the existing rail network within the GDA.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Infrastructure and Capital Investment Plan (2016-2021)	€27 billion multi-annual Exchequer Capital Investment Plan, which is supported by a programme of capital investment in the wider State sector, and which over the period 2016 to 2021 will help to lay the foundations for continued growth in Ireland.	• This Capital Plan reflects the Government's commitment to supporting strong and sustainable economic growth and raising welfare and living standards for all. • It includes allocations for new projects across a number of key areas and funding to ensure that the present stock of national infrastructure is refreshed and maintained.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Energy Security in Ireland to 2030 ("Energy Security Package")	It outlines a new strategy to ensure energy security in Ireland for this decade, while ensuring a sustainable transition to a carbon neutral energy system by 2050.	The Energy Security Package includes a range of measures to implement this approach in the short and medium term by prioritising: • Reduced and Responsive Demand • A Renewables-Led System • More Resilient Systems • Robust Risk Governance	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Our Sustainable Future: A framework for Sustainable Development for Ireland 2012	A medium to long term framework for advancing sustainable development and the green economy in Ireland. It identifies spatial planning as a key challenge for sustainable development and sets a series of measures to address these challenges. It aims at improving synergies and identifying and tackling policy gaps, policy conflicts and trade-offs as part of a coherent, joined-up approach to policy making on sustainable development. Ireland's Framework for Sustainable Development timeframe is to 2020 to tie in with other national and international frameworks, but a longer-term horizon to 2050 is also taken where appropriate, to provide a framework for guiding and reporting on long-term broad development trends such as on climate change.	The objectives of the Framework are to: • Identify and prioritise policy areas and mechanisms where a sustainable development approach will add value and enable progress towards the strategy aims. • Highlight and promote existing sustainable practices that, with the correct support, can underpin sustainable development more generally. • Strengthen policy integration, coherence and co-ordination and bring a long term perspective to decision making. • Set out governance mechanisms which ensure effective participation within government and across all stakeholders. • Set out clear measures, responsibilities and timelines in an implementation plan. • Set out how progress is to be measured and reported on through the use of indicators. • Incorporate adequate and effective monitoring, learning and improvement into the Framework process.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

Smarter Travel – A Sustainable Transport Future – A New Transport Policy for Ireland 2009 – 2020	Outlines a policy for how a sustainable travel and transport system can be achieved. Sets out five key goals: - To reduce overall travel demand. - To maximise the efficiency of the transport network. - To reduce reliance on fossil fuels. - To reduce transport emissions. - To improve accessibility to transport.	Others lower level aims include: - reduce distance travelled by private car and encourage smarter travel, including focusing population growth in areas of employment and to encourage people to live in close proximity to places of employment - ensuring that alternatives to the car are more widely available, mainly through a radically improved public transport service and through investment in cycling and walking - improving the fuel efficiency of motorised transport through improved fleet structure, energy efficient driving and alternative technologies - strengthening institutional arrangements to deliver the targets	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Draft National Bioenergy Plan 2014 – 2020	The Draft Bioenergy Plan vision: Bioenergy resources contributing to economic development and sustainable growth, generating jobs for citizens, supported by coherent policy, planning and regulation, and managed in an integrated manner.	Three high-level goals, of equal importance, based on the concept of sustainable development are identified: - To harness the market opportunities presented by bioenergy in order to achieve economic development, growth and jobs. - To increase awareness of the value, opportunities and societal benefits of developing bioenergy. - To ensure that bioenergy developments do not adversely impact the environment and its living and non-living resources.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Draft Renewable Electricity Policy and Development Framework (DCCAE) 2016	Goal: To optimise the opportunities in Ireland for renewable electricity development on land at significant scale, to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, in accordance with European and Irish law, including Directive 2009/28/EC: On the promotion of the use of energy from renewable resources.	Objective: To develop a Policy and Development Framework for renewable electricity generation on land to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, with particular focus on large scale projects for indigenous renewable electricity generation. This will, inter alia, provide guidance for planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for the Transport Sector (DTTAS) 2017-2030	This Framework sets targets to achieve an appropriate level of alternative fuels infrastructure for transport, which is relative to national policy and Irish market needs. Non-infrastructure-based incentives to support the use of the infrastructure and the uptake of alternative fuels are also included within the scope of the Framework.	Targets for alternative fuel infrastructure include the following: - AFV forecasts - Electricity targets - Natural gas (CNG, LNG) targets - Hydrogen targets - Biofuels targets - LPG targets - Synthetic and paraffinic fuels targets	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Cycle Network Scoping Study 2010	Outlines objectives and actions aimed at developing a strong cycle network in Ireland. Sets out 19 specific objectives, and details the 109 actions, aimed at ensuring that a cycling culture is developed.	Sets a target where 10% of all journeys will be made by bike by 2020. Proposes the planning, infrastructure, communication, education and stakeholder participations measures required to implement the initiative.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

National Cycle Network Plan Report 2023 (Transport Infrastructure Ireland, on behalf of the Department of Transport)	The planned National Cycle Network, presented below, links cities and towns of over 5,000 people with a safe, connected and inviting cycle network. One of the most ambitious and wide-reaching infrastructure plans in the history of the State, the proposed cycle network of approximately 3,500km will connect more than 200 settlements and 2.8m people. The National Cycle Network will link to destinations such as transport hubs, centres of education, centres of employment, leisure, and tourist destinations with the intention of facilitating greater cycling and walking amongst students, leisure users, tourists, and commuters alike. The NCN Plan complements other networks and establishes a core spine of infrastructure to encourage further development of cycling projects in the future, thereby optimising the potential for people to cycle as part of their daily activities, such as travel to work or education.	As well as contributing to Ireland's commitments to sustainability and decarbonisation, successful implementation of the NCN Plan will provide many benefits for cyclists and communities across Ireland, including: - Ensuring delivery of a high-quality cycle network which will promote safety, comfort and increased participation in cycling. - Improving sustainable connectivity nationally and providing links with other networks such as CycleConnects, EuroVelo and Northern Ireland networks. - Supporting both urban and rural economies through increased leisure and tourism cycling. - Improving public health through well documented benefits of active travel. - Guiding how local authorities prioritise exchequer-funded investments in cycle infrastructure. - Making use of existing infrastructure wherever possible including greenways, road infrastructure, - and declassified roads where safe and inviting cycle experiences can be provided. - The NCN aligns with the NTA's CycleConnects programme of urban and county-level cycle networks, as well as other cycle routes and networks in various stages of development, including the EuroVelo routes, national and regional greenways, and the Strategic Plan for Greenways in Northern Ireland.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Policy Framework for Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for Transport in Ireland 2017 to 2030	This National Policy Framework on Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for Transport represents the first step in communicating our longer-term national vision for decarbonising transport by 2050, the cornerstone of which is our ambition that by 2030 all new cars and vans sold in Ireland will be zero-emissions capable. By 2030 it is envisaged that the movement in Ireland to electrically-fuelled cars and commuter rail will be well underway, with natural gas and biofuels developing as major alternatives in the freight and bus sectors.	This policy set out to achieve five key goals in transport: - Reduce overall travel demand - Maximise the efficiency of the transport network - Reduce reliance on fossil fuels - Reduce transport emissions - Improve accessibility to transport These goals remain the cornerstone of transport policy and are fully aligned to the objectives of this National Policy Framework.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Delivering a Sustainable Energy Future for Ireland – The Energy Policy Framework 2007 – 2020 (2007)	- White paper setting out a framework for delivering a sustainable energy future in Ireland. - Outlines strategic Goals for: - Security of Supply - Sustainability of Energy - Competitiveness of Energy Supply	The underpinning Strategic Goals are: - Ensuring that electricity supply consistently meets demand - Ensuring the physical security and reliability of gas supplies to Ireland - Enhancing the diversity of fuels used for power generation - Delivering electricity and gas to homes and businesses over efficient, reliable and secure networks - Creating a stable attractive environment for hydrocarbon exploration and production - Being prepared for energy supply disruptions	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Renewable Energy Action Plan (NREAP) (2010)	The National Renewable Energy Action Plan sets out the Government's strategic approach and concrete measures to deliver on Ireland's 16% target under Directive 2009/28/EC. National Renewable Energy Action Plan.	The areas of intervention identified by the NREAP are heat, transport and electricity. Section 4 provides an overview of all policies and measures to promote the use of energy from renewable resources, these are: Biofuels Mineral Oil Tax Relief (MOTR) Schemes to increase production and use of biofuel; Greener Homes Scheme, financial facilitates to wider deployment of renewable-energy heating technologies in the residential sector; Grant support for the planting of perennial biomass crops (willow and miscanthus) – contributes to biomass needs of renewable energy sector; a policy that facilitates renewables by providing for grid connections outside the gate process for certain small, renewable, low carbon generators; new local and central authorities; etc.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Energy Efficiency Action Plan for Ireland (2017 – 2020)	Article 24 of the EU Energy Efficiency Directive requires Member States to submit a National Energy Efficiency Action Plan (NEEAP) every three years. Ireland's 4th NEEAP was produced in early 2017.	It provides a comprehensive overview on the progress made towards the above targets the measures in place to ensure the targets are met the strategies and policies in place across the residential, commercial, transport and public sector.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

National Broadband Plan (2012)	The National Broadband Plan is the Government's initiative to deliver high speed broadband services to all premises in Ireland. This will be delivered through investment by commercial enterprises coupled with intervention by the State in those parts of the country where private companies have no plans to invest.	The Plan sets out: • A clear statement of Government policy on the delivery of High-Speed Broadband. • Specific targets for the delivery and rollout of high-speed broadband and the speeds to be delivered. • The strategy and interventions that will underpin the successful implementation of these targets. • A series of specific complementary measures to promote implementation of Government policy in this area.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Shaping Our Electricity Future 1.1 (EirGrid)	The main objective of the Shaping Our Electricity Future Roadmap Version 1.1 is to outline how we can make the grid ready so that 80% of Ireland's and Northern Ireland's electricity can come from renewable sources, like the wind and sun, by 2030. These targets, and new limits to carbon emissions, are the product of updates to climate change policy across the island in 2022.	Key goals include: • Support the delivery of renewable electricity. • Find problems, gaps, opportunities, potential collaborations, or areas of duplication in the deployment of renewable electricity projects. • Help to find and resolve potential regulatory, administrative and/or legal barriers to the faster deployment of renewable electricity projects. • Increase alignment across the energy sector to support the delivery of renewable electricity generation projects. • Recommend appropriate investment conditions for electricity projects.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Strategy for the Future Development of National and Regional Greenways (2018)	The objective of this Strategy is to assist in the strategic development of nationally and regionally significant greenways in appropriate locations constructed to an appropriate standard in order to deliver a quality experience for all greenways users. It also aims to increase the number and geographical spread of greenways of scale and quality around the country over the next 10 years with a consequent significant increase in the number of people using greenways as a visitor experience and as a recreational amenity.	• A strategic greenway network of national and regional routes, with a number of high capacity flagship routes that can be extended and/or link with local Greenways and other cycling and walking infrastructure; • Greenways of scale and appropriate standard that have significant potential to deliver an increase in activity tourism to Ireland and are regularly used by overseas visitors, domestic visitors and locals thereby contributing to a healthier society through increased physical activity; • Greenways that provide a substantially segregated off road experience linking places of interest, recreation and leisure in areas with beautiful scenery of different types with plenty to see and do; and • Greenways that provide opportunities for the development of local businesses and economies, and • Greenways that are developed with all relevant stakeholders in line with an agreed code of practice.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Construction 2020, A Strategy for a Renewed Construction Sector	Construction 2020 sets out a package of measures agreed by the Government and is aimed at stimulating activity in the building industry. The Strategy aims both to increase the capacity of the sector to create and maintain jobs, and to deliver a sustainable sector, operating at an appropriate level. It seeks to learn the lessons of the past and to ensure that the right structures and mechanisms are in place so that they are not repeated.	This Strategy therefore addresses issues including: • A strategic approach to the provision of housing, based on real and measured needs, with mechanisms in place to detect and act when things are going wrong; • Continuing improvement of the planning process, striking the right balance between current and future requirements; • The availability of financing for viable and worthwhile projects; • Access to mortgage finance on reasonable and sustainable terms; • Ensuring we have the tools we need to monitor and regulate the sector in a way that underpins public confidence and worker safety; • Ensuring a fit for purpose sector supported by a highly skilled workforce achieving high quality and standards; and • Ensuring opportunities are provided to unemployed former construction workers to contribute to the recovery of the sector.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Sustainable Development: A Strategy for Ireland (1997)	The overall aim of this Strategy is to ensure that economy and society in Ireland can develop to their full potential within a well-protected environment, without compromising the quality of that environment, and with responsibility towards present and future generations and the wider international community.	The Strategy addresses all areas of Government policy, and of economic and societal activity, which impact on the environment. It seeks to re-orientate policies as necessary to ensure that the strong growth Ireland enjoys and seeks to maintain will be environmentally sustainable.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

National Landscape Strategy for Ireland 2015-2025 and National Landscape Character Assessment (pending preparation)	The National Landscape Strategy will be used to ensure compliance with the European Landscape Convention and to establish principles for protecting and enhancing the landscape while positively managing its change. It will provide a high-level policy framework to achieve balance between the protection, management and planning of the landscape by way of supporting actions. Landscape Strategy Vision: <i>"Our landscape reflects and embodies our cultural values and our shared natural heritage and contributes to the well-being of our society, environment and economy. We have an obligation to ourselves and to future generations to promote its sustainable protection, management and planning."</i>	The objectives of the National Landscape Strategy are to: • Implement the European Landscape Convention by integrating landscape into the approach to sustainable development; • Establish and embed a public process of gathering, sharing and interpreting scientific, technical and cultural information in order to carry out evidence-based identification and description of the character, resources and processes of the landscape; • Provide a policy framework, which will put in place measures at national, sectoral - including agriculture, tourism, energy, transport and marine - and local level, together with civil society, to protect, manage and properly plan through high quality design for the sustainable stewardship of the landscape; • Ensure that we take advantage of opportunities to implement policies relating to landscape use that are complementary and mutually reinforcing and that conflicting policy objectives are avoided in as far as possible.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Waste Management Act 1996 (as amended)	To make provision in relation to the prevention, management and control of waste; to give effect to provisions of certain acts adopted by institutions of the European communities in respect of those matters; to amend the Environmental Protection Agency Act, 1992, and to repeal certain enactments and to provide for related matters.	The Waste Management Act contains a number of key legal obligations, including requirements for waste management planning, waste collection and movement, the authorisation of waste facilities, measures to reduce the production of waste and/or promote its recovery.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Hazardous Waste Management Plan 2021-2027	The EPA's National Hazardous Waste Management Plan (NWHMP) covers a six-year period from 2021 to 2027. This is the fourth National Hazardous Waste Management Plan and is made under Section 26 of the Waste Management Act 1996. It sets out the priorities to be pursued over the next six years and beyond to improve the prevention and management of hazardous waste, taking into account the progress made since the previous revised plan, and the waste policy and legislative changes that have occurred since the previous revised plan was published. The purpose of this plan is to protect the environment and human health in Ireland through best-practice management of hazardous wastes.	The Plan's objectives are: 1. Support and drive priority prevention actions by industry and the public to reduce the generation of hazardous waste; 2. Support the identification of adequate and appropriate collection infrastructure for all hazardous wastes with a view to mitigating environmental and health impacts; 3. Endorse the proximity principle such that hazardous wastes are treated as close to the point of production as possible – including within Ireland, taking into account the need for specialised installations for certain types of waste. 4. Support effective regulation of the movement and management of hazardous wastes in line with national policy priorities; 5. Promotion of safe reuse and recycling pathways in support of the circular economy.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy (2024)	The Regional Waste Management Planning Offices, under the auspices of the County and City Management Association National Oversight Group, have co-ordinated the preparation of this plan which is the first National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy. This Plan sets out a framework for the prevention and management of waste in Ireland for the period 2024 to 2030.	The Plan seeks to influence sustainable consumption and prevent the generation of waste, improve the capture of materials to optimise circularity and enable compliance with policy and legislation.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Ministerial Guidelines such as Sustainable Rural Housing Guidelines and Flood Risk Management Guidelines	The Department produces a range of guidelines designed to help planning authorities, An Bord Pleanála, developers and the general public and cover a wide range of issues amongst others, architectural heritage, child care facilities, landscape, quarries and residential density.	The Minister issues statutory guidelines under Section 28 of the Act which planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála are obliged to have regard to in the performance of their planning functions.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

Healthy Ireland Framework 2019-2025	The Healthy Ireland Framework 2019-2025 is a roadmap for building a healthier Ireland.	It is based around four key goals: - to increase the proportion of people who are healthy at all stages of life - to reduce health inequalities - to protect the public from threats to health and wellbeing - to create an environment where every individual and sector of society can play their part in achieving a healthy Ireland	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
S.I. 232/2018 - European Union (National Emission Ceilings) Regulations 2018	The Regulations require the Minister to ensure that emissions of the specified pollutants are limited in accordance with the ceilings set out in Schedule 2. Annex III part 2 includes a set of measures to reduce emissions from agriculture.	The Regulations provide that the Environment Protection Agency shall prepare an annual inventory report of emissions of 5 specified pollutants (sulphur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), non-methane volatile organic compounds (NMVOC), ammonia (NH₃), and fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}), and in certain years a report on projections of emissions. The Regulations also require the preparation of a national air pollution control programme Referring, among other things, to the 1979 UNECE Convention on Long Range Transboundary Air Pollution), and the establishment of a network to monitor the negative impacts of air pollution upon ecosystems based on a network of monitoring sites that is representative of Ireland's freshwater, natural and semi-natural habitats and forest ecosystem types. The Programme shall contain elements on the use of nitrogen fertilizer and soil protection. In fulfilling the requirements of subparagraph (b) the Minister shall ensure coordination with other monitoring programmes established pursuant to Union legislation including Directive 2008/50/EC, Directive 2000/60/EC and Council Directive 92/43/EEC and, if appropriate, the LRTAP Convention and, where appropriate, make use of data collected under those programmes.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Clean Air Strategy 2023	The Clean Air Strategy provides the strategic policy framework necessary to identify and promote integrated measures across government policy that are required to reduce air pollution and promote cleaner air while delivering on wider national objectives.	- Having a National Strategy provides a policy framework by which Ireland can develop the necessary policies and measures to comply with new and emerging EU legislation. - The Strategy should also help tackle climate change. - The Strategy considers a wider range of national policies that are relevant to clean air policy such as transport, energy, home heating and agriculture. - In any discussion relating to clean air policy, the issue of people's health is paramount and this is a theme of the Strategy.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Agri-Food Strategy 2030	The Food Vision 2030 Strategy is a new ten year Strategy for the Irish agri-food sector (taken to include primary agriculture, food and drink processing and manufacturing, fisheries, aquaculture and fish processing, forestry and forestry processing and the equine sector).	The Strategy consists of 22 Goals, grouped into four high-level "Missions" for the sector to work toward: - A Climate Smart, Environmentally Sustainable Agri-Food Sector - Viable and Resilient Primary Producers with Enhanced Well-Being - Food Which is Safe, Nutritious And Appealing, Trusted And Valued at Home and Abroad - An Innovative, Competitive and Resilient Agri-Food Sector, Driven by Technology And Talent	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Agricultural Schemes, including: Rural Environmental Protection Scheme (REPS), Agri-Environmental Options Scheme (AEOS), Green, Low-Carbon, Agri-environment Scheme (GLAS) and Results-based Environment-Agri Pilot Scheme (REAP)	Agri-environmental funding schemes aimed at rural development for the environmental enhancement and protection. The REPS evolved to AEOS 7, 8, 9, 10, 12 and 14 and currently the Green Low Carbon Agri-Environment (GLAS) Scheme is in place. The recently introduced REAP scheme in Ireland is a two year scheme in place for 2021 and 2022.	- Establish best practice farming methods and production methods in order to protect landscapes and maximise conservation. - Protect biodiversity, endangered species of flora and fauna and wildlife habitats. - Ensure food is produced with the highest regard to the environment. - Implement nutrient management plans and grassland management plans. - Protect and maintain water bodies, wetlands and cultural heritage.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

National Rural Development Programme 2014-2022 (as amended)	The National Rural Development Programme, prepared by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, sets out a national programme based on the EU framework for rural development and prioritises improving the competitiveness of agriculture, improving the environment and improving the quality of life in rural areas.	At a more detailed level, the programme also: • Supports structural change at farm level including training young farmers and encouraging early retirement, support for restructuring, development and innovation; • Aims to improve the environment, biodiversity and the amenity value of the countryside by support for land management through funds such as Natura 2000 payments etc.; and • Aims to improve quality of life in rural areas and encouraging diversification of economic activity through the implementation of local development strategies such as non-agricultural activities	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Our Rural Future: Rural Development Policy 2021-2025	The vision of this policy is for a thriving rural Ireland which is integral to our national economic, social, cultural and environmental wellbeing and development. Our Rural Future represents the Irish Government's blueprint for a post-COVID-19 recovery and development of rural Ireland over the next 5 years. It provides the framework to achieve the vision of transforming the quality of life and opportunity for people living in rural areas.	A set of policy measures aim to deliver wellbeing for all, and to support an aligned policy approach to rural development. It seeks to promote enhanced community participation, to prepare rural areas for technological, demographic and environmental change, and to address the diversity of challenges and opportunities facing rural areas, informed by analysis, data, and consultation.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Food Wise 2025 (DAFM)	Food Wise 2025 sets out a ten-year plan for the agri-food sector. It underlines the sector's unique and special position within the Irish economy, and it illustrates the potential which exists for this sector to grow even further.	Food Wise 2025 identifies ambitious and challenging growth projections for the industry over the next ten years including: • 85% increase in exports to €19 billion. • 70% increase in value added to €13 billion. • 60% increase in primary production to €10 billion. • The creation of 23,000 additional jobs all along the supply chain from producer level to high-end value-added product development.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Tourism Action Plan 2019-2021	The Tourism Action Plan 2019-2021 sets out actions that the Tourism Leadership Group has identified as priorities to be progressed until 2021 in order to maintain sustainable growth in overseas tourism revenue and employment. Each action involves specific tourism stakeholders, both in the public and private sectors, all of whom we expect to proactively work towards the completion of actions within the specified timeframe.	The Plan contains 27 actions focusing on the following areas: • Policy Context • Marketing Ireland as a Visitor Destination • Enhancing the Visitor Experience • Research in the Irish Tourism Sector • Supporting Local Communities in Tourism • Wider Government Policy • International Context • Co-ordination Structures	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Tourism Policy Statement: People, Place and Policy – Growing Tourism to 2025	Growing Tourism to 2025 is a policy framework for the development of tourism within the Country. The main goal of this policy statement is to have a vibrant, attractive tourism sector that makes a significant contribution to employment across the country; is economically, socially and environmentally sustainable; helps promote a positive image of Ireland overseas, and is a sector in which people want to work.	The Tourism Policy Statement sets three headline targets to be achieved by 2025: • Overseas tourism revenue of €5 billion per year • net of inflation excluding carrier receipts; • 250,000 people employed in tourism; and • 10 million overseas visitors to Ireland per year.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

Waterways Ireland Heritage Plan 2016-2020	The Waterways Ireland Heritage Plan provides a strategic framework for the integration of built, natural and cultural heritage into the future management of waterways. The overarching aim of the Plan is to: <i>"Identify and protect the unique waterways heritage and promote its sustainable use for the enjoyment of this and future generations"</i>.	Four objectives of the Plan include the following: - Objective 1: Fostering partnerships to continue building waterway heritage knowledge through storing information, undertaking research and developing best practice. - Objective 2: Promoting awareness, appreciation and enjoyment of our waterway heritage with a focus on community engagement. - Objective 3: Promoting the integrated management, conservation, protection and sustainable use of the inland navigable waterway asset. - Objective 4: To develop Waterways Ireland as a heritage organisation committed to achieving the aim of this plan.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Waterways Ireland "Reimagining Our Waterways" 10-Year Plan 2023	10-Year Plan is a visionary roadmap for reimagining historical waterways, greenways and blueways. Waterways Ireland's Vision is to be recognised as having enabled the creation of inspirational inland navigations and waterways experiences, through conservation and sustainable development for the benefit of all.	At the core of our 10-year plan is set of six strategic priorities. These are: - Organisation Development & Governance - Sustainable Funding Model - Asset Portfolio Management - Participation and Reputation - Sustainable Development - Climate Action, Environment and Heritage	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Tourism Development and Innovation – A Strategy for Investment 2016-2022, (Fáilte Ireland, 2016)	This strategy sets out the framework and mechanism for the delivery of investment to cities, towns, villages, communities and businesses across the country. It identifies priorities to support innovation in the sector to retain and grow the country's competitiveness in the marketplace. Its ultimate aim is to strengthen the appeal of Ireland for international visitors.	The objectives of the Tourism Development and Innovation Strategy are: - To successfully and consistently deliver a world class visitor experience; - To support a tourism sector that is profitable and achieves sustainable levels of growth and delivers jobs; - To facilitate communities to play an enhanced role in developing tourism in their locality, thereby strengthening and enriching local communities; and - To recognise, value and enhance Ireland's natural environment as the cornerstone of Irish tourism.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Housing (Traveller Accommodation) Act 1998	The Housing (Traveller Accommodation) Act 1998 requires that each Housing Authority adopts a Traveller Accommodation Programme for its functional area.	This Act amended and extended the Housing Acts, 1966 to 1997, the Local Government (Planning and Development) Acts, 1963 to 1998, the Local Government Act, 1991, to make provision for the accommodation needs of travellers, to provide for the appointment of a national traveller accommodation consultative committee and local traveller accommodation consultative committees and to provide for related matters.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Sustainable Residential Development and Compact Settlement Guidelines (DHLGH, 2024)	The Guidelines set out policy and guidance in relation to the planning and development of urban and rural settlements, with a focus on sustainable residential development and the creation of compact settlements. They are accompanied by a companion non-statutory Design Manual that illustrates best practice examples of how the policies and objectives of the Guidelines can be applied.	The Guidelines build on and update previous guidance to take account of current Government policy and economic, social and environmental considerations. There is a renewed focus in the Guidelines on the renewal of existing settlements and on the interaction between residential density, housing standards and quality urban design and placemaking to support sustainable and compact growth.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

Retail Planning Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2012)	The Guidelines have five key policy objectives: • Ensuring that retail development is plan-led; • Promoting city/town centre vitality through a sequential approach to development; • Securing competitiveness in the retail sector by actively enabling good quality development proposals to come forward in suitable locations; • Facilitating a shift towards increased access to retailing by public transport, cycling and walking in accordance with the Smarter Travel strategy; and • Delivering quality urban design outcomes.	The aim of the Guidelines is to ensure that the planning system continues to play a key role in supporting competitiveness in the retail sector for the benefit of the consumer in accordance with proper planning and sustainable development. In addition, the planning system must promote and support the vitality and viability of city and town centres thereby contributing to a high standard of urban design and encouraging a greater use of sustainable transport.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Architectural Protection Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2011)	Part 1 of these guidelines includes the criteria to be applied when selecting proposed protected structures for inclusion in the RPS. It also offers guidance to planning authorities on issuing a declaration on a protected structure and on determining planning applications in relation to a protected structure, a proposed protected structure or the exterior of a building within an ACA.	Part 2 contains supplementary detailed guidance to support planning authorities in their role to protect the architectural heritage when a protected structure, a proposed protected structure or the exterior of a building within an ACA is the subject of development proposals and when a declaration is sought in relation to a protected structure.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022-2027	The primary objective of the strategy which is to facilitate disabled people to live independently with the appropriate choices and control over where, how and with whom they live, promoting their inclusion in the community.	This Strategy will build on the progress made under the previous strategy, The National Housing Strategy for People with a Disability (NHSPWD) 2011 – 2016 (extended to 2021). The Strategy promotes a whole of community approach to housing for disabled people when planning the provision of housing, including infrastructure, transport, education, and employment.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Derelict Sites Act (1990)	An Act to make provision with respect to land to prevent it being or becoming a derelict site, to enable Local Authorities to require the taking of measures on derelict sites by the owners or occupiers and, in certain circumstances, to acquire derelict sites compulsorily, to establish registers of derelict sites, to enable the minister to give directions in relation to derelict sites, to provide for a derelict sites levy and to provide for other matters connected with the aforesaid and to repeal the Derelict Sites Act 1961.	Under the Act, local authorities can: • Prosecute owners who do not comply with notices served • Make compulsory land purchases • Carry out necessary work themselves and charge the owners for the cost All local authorities must: • Maintain derelict sites register • Make the register available for public inspection - It can remove an entry from the Register when it is satisfied that improvement works have been carried out on the derelict site.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015 (as amended)	An Act to make provision with respect to land in areas in which housing is required and in areas which are in need of renewal to prevent it lying idle or remaining vacant, to establish a register of vacant sites in those areas, to provide for vacant sites levy, to amend the Derelict Sites Act 1990, to amend Parts II, III and V of the Planning and Development Act 2000, to amend the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2009 and to provide for related matters.	This Revised Act is an administrative consolidation of the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015. It is prepared by the Law Reform Commission in accordance with its function under the Law Reform Commission Act 1975 (3/1975) to keep the law under review and to undertake revision and consolidation of statute law.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

Housing for All - a New Housing Plan for Ireland	The government's overall objective is that every citizen in the State should have access to good quality homes: - to purchase or rent at an affordable price - built to a high standard and in the right place - offering a high quality of life	The policy has four pathways to achieving housing for all: - supporting home ownership and increasing affordability - eradicating homelessness, increasing social housing delivery and supporting social inclusion - increasing new housing supply - addressing vacancy and efficient use of existing stock	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Town Centre First Policy (2022)	The Town Centre First Policy is a major cross-government policy that aims to tackle vacancy, combat dereliction and breathe new life into town centres. It advocates for a holistic, place-based approach to sustainable rural development. The Town Centre First policy aims to create town centres that function as viable, vibrant and attractive locations for people to live, work and visit, while also functioning as the business, service, social and. cultural.	The Policy contains 33 actions which will give towns the tools and resources they need to become more viable and attractive places in which to live, work, socialise and run a business. This will focus on charting the future direction of their towns, address issues of vacancy and dereliction and add vibrancy to the town centre.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
IDA's Adapt Intelligently: A Strategy for Sustainable Growth and Innovation 2025-29 and associated developments	IDA Ireland's strategy 2025-29 is an ambitious and positive approach to a fast-changing world. Drawing on the opportunities for growth arising from the structural forces that are reshaping the global economy, it sets an ambition: - For Ireland to be a leading location for smart, sustainable manufacturing and intelligent, digitalised services - To increase the number of companies undertaking cutting-edge research and innovation and the scope, scale and ambition of their Research, Development and Innovation activity - To retain and enhance Ireland's position in key strategic value chains - To grow the level of investment in sustainable business practices and processes and in developing new sustainability and energy-efficient technologies - For Ireland to be a leading location for the world-class talent and skills needed to realise future growth opportunities.	In pursuit of the strategic objectives and targets, IDA Ireland will win 1,000 investments to: - Secure €7bn in new Research, Development and Innovation investment - Deliver 550 regional investments - Reduce IDA Ireland client carbon emissions by 35% - Create 75,000 jobs - Upskill 40,000 people. - This in turn will support IDA Ireland client spend in Ireland of €250bn over the lifetime of the strategy on wages, Irish goods and services, and capital investment, providing further opportunity and economic impact across local supply chains.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
National Biodiversity Adaptation Plan 2025	The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage's Biodiversity Sectoral Adaptation Plan 2025 is the second Sectoral Climate Change Adaptation Plan for Ireland's Biodiversity Sector. It has been developed under the provisions of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015 and the National Adaptation Framework (Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment, 2024). The 2025 Plan builds on the 2019 Plan and integrates the latest climate and ecological science, stakeholder engagement, and national and international strategies. The Plan is a national-scale plan that considers climate change impacts and risks across Ireland's terrestrial, freshwater, and marine biodiversity. It assesses sectoral consequences under two climate scenarios.	The Plan is aligned with the objectives of the 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan and supports the overarching objectives of the Nature Restoration Regulation to put restoration measures in place to restore at least 20% of the EU's land and sea areas by 2030 and all ecosystems in need of restoration by 2050. The Plan sets out three strategic goals supported by eight objectives and 22 new actions, alongside coordinated delivery of 43 existing actions from the 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan. These actions range from strengthening the evidence base for adaptation, ecosystem restoration, and nature-based solutions to governance, monitoring, and public engagement. Each action is linked to delivery owners, timelines, and indicators to support implementation and alignment with Ireland's climate commitments. Governance and implementation are supported by a Monitoring, Reporting, Evaluation and Learning framework, annual progress reviews, and funding mechanisms. The Plan also recognises cross-sectoral interdependencies, highlighting how climate impacts and adaptation efforts in biodiversity influence and are influenced by sectors such as agriculture, water, health, energy, and infrastructure. Through this integrated and forward-looking approach, the Plan aims to mainstream climate adaptation and build long-term resilience across Ireland's ecosystems, ensuring that biodiversity continues to support climate regulation, human wellbeing, and sustainable development.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

Heritage Ireland 2030 (2020)	The Vision from Heritage Ireland is: "Recognised for its contribution to society and well-being, Ireland's heritage will be valued, nurtured and protected and placed at the very centre of our decision"	Heritage Ireland 2030 is Ireland's new national heritage plan. It is built around a vision of our heritage – in all its forms – being at very centre of local and national discourse, valued by all and cared for and protected for future generations. At the heart of this framework are three themes: communities, leadership and partnerships. These themes reflect the importance of ongoing collaboration between government and communities, heritage organisations, individuals and local authorities in caring and planning for our shared heritage. Heritage Ireland 2030 suggests a series of structures under which all these stakeholders can come together to advance the protection of Ireland's heritage through over 150 actions. These structures will be established in Q1 and Q2 of 2022 ahead of the publication of an implementation plan in Q3 which will assign actions and timeframes to responsible stakeholders.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Emerging NTA CycleConnects: Ireland's Cycle Network	Aims to improve sustainable travel by providing the potential for more trips on a safe, accessible and convenient cycling network, connecting more people to more places.	Proposals for cycling links in key cities, towns and villages in each county are included in the plan, in addition to connections between the larger towns, villages and settlements. The plan also incorporates existing and planned cycle routes such as greenways and blueways. The draft proposals envisage an extensive cycling network across the 22 counties, complementing the cycling plans already developed for the Greater Dublin Area (Meath, Kildare, Wicklow and Dublin). Together these plans will create an overall comprehensive cycle network for Ireland.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
The All-Island Strategic Rail Review	The All-Island Strategic Rail Review aims to enhance and expand the rail system across Ireland and Northern Ireland with 32 strategic recommendations for development up to 2050.	The All-Island Strategic Rail Review was jointly commissioned by the Department of Transport in Ireland and the Department for Infrastructure in Northern Ireland. Its primary goal is to create a strategic vision for the rail system that supports sustainable transport, enhances connectivity, and aligns with net carbon zero commitments in both jurisdictions. The review emphasizes the importance of rail as a backbone for a high-quality transport system that benefits communities and the economy.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
December 2013 the European parliament adopted Regulation (EU) No.315/2013 on Guidelines for the development of the Trans European Transport Network (Ten-T), (amended in 2014 to include supplementary maps (EU) No.473/2014)	The Guidelines set out that member states shall "take appropriate measures" to complete their core network by 2030; the maps associated with the Regulations show the core network corridors of the TEN-T extending from Dublin to Belfast, and Dublin to Cork only.	Nationally, as a result of the directive, parts of the N13 (including the Letterkenny to Bridgend section), N14 and N15 have also been identified as part of the TEN-T network	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Regional/ County/Local Level			
Northern and Western Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2019-2031	The Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy provides a long-term strategic planning and economic framework for the Northern and Western Region in order to support the implementation of the National Planning Framework.	The Northern and Western Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy includes provisions for its 9 constituent local authorities: Galway City Council; Galway County Council; Roscommon County Council; Leitrim County Council; Sligo County Council; Donegal County Council; Monaghan County Council; Mayo County Council; and Cavan County Council.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

Integrated Implementation Plan 2019-2024	The Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2016-2035, which established an overall framework for transport investment over the next two decades and was subject to full SEA and Stage 2 AA, is a key policy shaping the six-year Integrated Infrastructure Plan. The priorities in the Integrated Infrastructure Plan align with the objectives and priorities set out in the Transport Strategy, focused on improving public and sustainable transport.	The Implementation Plan identifies investment proposals for a number of areas including: • Bus; • Light Rail; • Heavy Rail; • Integration Measures and Sustainable Transport Investment; • Integrated Service Plan; and • Integration and Accessibility.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans, programmes, strategies, and other policy documents – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
NPWS Conservation Plans and/or Conservation Objectives for SACs and SPAs	Management planning for nature conservation sites has a number of aims. These include: • To identify and evaluate the features of interest for a site • To set clear objectives for the conservation of the features of interest • To describe the site and its management • To identify issues (both positive and negative) that might influence the site • To set out appropriate strategies/management actions to achieve the objectives	• Conservation objectives for SACs and SPAs (i.e. sites within the Natura 2000 network) have to be set for the habitats and species for which the sites are selected. • These objectives are used when carrying out appropriate assessments for plans and projects that might impact on these sites.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Groundwater Protection Schemes	A Groundwater Protection Scheme provides guidelines for the planning and licensing authorities in carrying out their functions, and a framework to assist in decision-making on the location, nature and control of developments and activities in order to protect groundwater.	A Groundwater Protection Scheme aims to maintain the quantity and quality of groundwater, and in some cases improve it, by applying a risk assessment-based approach to groundwater protection and sustainable development.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Leitrim County Development Plan 2023-2029 and other Land Use Plans in force within County Leitrim and in other adjoining planning authorities	• Outline planning objectives for land use development. • Strategic framework for planning and sustainable development including those set out in National Planning Framework and Regional Economic and Spatial Strategies. • Set out the policies and proposals to guide development in the specific Local Authority area.	• Identify future infrastructure, development and zoning required. • Protect and enhances amenities and environment. • Guide planning authority in assessing proposals. • Aim to guide development in the area and the amount of nature of the planned development. • Aim to promote sustainable development. • Provide for economic development and protect natural environmental, heritage.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Local Economic and Community Plans (LECPs), including Leitrim LECP 2023-2029	The overarching vision for each LECP is: “to promote the well-being and quality of life of citizens and communities.”	The purpose of the Local Economic and Community Plan is to set out, for a six-year period, the objectives and actions needed to promote and support the economic development and the local and community development in county Laois.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Town Centre First Plans	Town Centre First aims to create town centres that function as viable, vibrant and attractive locations for people to live, work and visit, while also functioning as the service, social, cultural and recreational hub for the local community.	Town Centre First (TFC) lays the foundation for each town to develop, at a local level, their own plan-led path forward. This will be expressed through a tailored TCF plan, which is underpinned by a clear diagnosis of local strengths and challenges. The TCF approach is centred on: • Collaboration and communication – a collaborative process involving all relevant local stakeholders, represented by a collaborative Town Team, with good communication in respect of issues raised and the agreed direction. • Understanding the place – analysis and appraisal underpinned by a town audit/ data gathering -process. • Defining the place – shaping the plan around high-level objectives that are subsequently expressed through a series of actions. • Enabling the place– identifying a clear path to delivery of the Plan, cognisant that this will require actions of varying scale to be delivered by different partners.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

Local Authority Tourism Strategy	Local authority tourism strategies are six-year plans that identify opportunities and challenges for tourism in an area, outlining actions to grow the industry through marketing, events, and infrastructure development.	These strategies involve collaboration with local businesses and communities to preserve culture and resources while promoting sustainable growth, often resulting in the development of attractions, festivals, and improved visitor amenities.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Local Authority Renewable Energy Strategy	The Strategy sets out the framework for the delivery of sustainable and renewable energies throughout the County.	The LARES outlines the potential for a range of renewable energy resources and developments and acknowledges the significant contribution that they can make to the county in terms of energy security, reduced reliance on traditional fossil fuels, enabling future energy exports, meeting assigned national targets and the transition to a low carbon economy.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Local Authority Climate Action Charter 2019	The Climate Action Charter is a key action in the Plan and will ensure every local authority embeds decarbonisation, sustainable development and climate resilience into every aspect of the work they do. This Plan will ensure to meet local authority's 2030 climate commitments, on a trajectory to be net-zero emissions by 2050.	The Charter commits Local Authorities to several actions that will ensure that they play a key leadership role locally and nationally in delivering effective climate action.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
County Leitrim Landscape Character Assessment and Landscape Character Assessment in adjoining local authorities	Characterises the geographical dimension of the landscape.	- Identifies the quality, value, sensitivity and capacity of the landscape area. - Guides strategies and guidelines for the future development of the landscape.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Leitrim Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) 2026-2031	To create a thriving, resilient natural environment where biodiversity flourishes and there is a harmonious balance between nature & human activities.	The Plan includes actions under six objectives: 1. Raise awareness of biodiversity through education and community engagement 2. Protect and restoring natural habitats and native species 3. Tackle and raise awareness of invasive alien species 4. Promote and celebrate sustainable land use practices 5. Track progress through monitoring and evaluation 6. Provide funding, resources and support for biodiversity actions	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects (see Section 8.2) may arise. Implementation of the Plan needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Draft Leitrim Heritage Plan 2026 – 2031 (in preparation)	Through this heritage plan, Leitrim County Council aim to develop the framework to raise awareness of this valuable asset and take the necessary steps to conserve and protect it. Leitrim County Council will continue to research, conserve, manage, promote and interpret their built, natural and cultural heritage.	To Honour the People of Leitrim through a Celebration of their Unique Heritage.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied needs to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

Leitrim Noise Action Plan 2024-2028	Noise Action Plans are prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Noise Regulations 2006, Statutory Instrument 140 of 2006. These Regulations give effect to the EU Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise. This Directive sets out a process for managing environmental noise in a consistent manner across the EU and the Noise Regulations set out the approach to meeting the requirements of the Directive in Ireland.	The purpose of Noise Action Plans is to inform and consult the public about noise exposure, its effects and the measures which may be considered to address noise problems Address strategic noise issues by requiring competent authorities to draw up action plans to manage noise issues and their effects Reduce noise, where possible, and maintain the environmental acoustic quality where it is good.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Leitrim County Council Climate Action Plan 2024-2029	Ireland's Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act (2021) Ireland is now on a legally binding path to net-Zero emissions no later than 2050, and to a 51% reduction in emissions by the end of this decade. The act requires local authorities to prepare a Local Authority Climate Action Plan, which runs for 5 years to meet national emission reductions targets and develop resilience to the impacts of climate change.	The Climate Action Plan sets out five action areas: • Built Environment and Transport • Natural Environment and Green Infrastructure • Communities: Resilience and Transition • Sustainability and Resource Management • Governance and Leadership	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Regional and Local EV Charging Network Plan 2024-2030	The plan provides a pathway for the accelerated delivery of regional and local networks of public electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure at destination and neighbourhood areas, in line with both national and European ambitions for cleaner transportation. The plan ensures a cohesive and standardised approach. It will be led by local authorities, working together to develop regional and local strategies to promote a unified and efficient rollout of charging infrastructure and to facilitate the equitable transition to EVs.	The Regional and Local EV Charging Network Plan provides a way forward for equitably delivering charging infrastructure at a national and local level to support the national and international efforts to reduce transport-related carbon emissions through the shift to zero emission vehicles for all users. The plan lays out a pathway, adhering to the fundamental principles below set out in the Infrastructure Strategy, to sustainably deliver charging infrastructure at destination and neighbourhood locations.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Local Neighbourhood and Destination Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategies	The Regional and Local EV Charging Network Plan published for consultation by ZEVl (Zero Emission Vehicles Ireland) in 2024 sets out minimum charging capacity requirements for local authorities per geographical area.	By developing a comprehensive network of strategically located charging stations, the strategies are intended to support the growing number of EVs on Irish roads, ensuring that all areas are adequately served and help meet the climate action targets.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
'The Connecting Ireland Rural Mobility Plan' by the National Transport Authority	The plan aims to improve mobility in rural areas, and it will do this by providing better connections between villages and towns by linking these areas with an enhanced regional network connecting cities and regional centres nationwide.	These principles include: • Increasing frequency on existing routes to attract more passengers; • Design useful and integrated timetables; • Schedule services to arrive at a centre before 09:00, particularly for work and education trips; • Allow for trips in the middle of the day for those shopping, attending health appointments, or visiting friends and family; • Schedule a return home at around 17:30 and potentially provide later services for socialising and evening retail where there is demand; • Provide services seven days a week; • Provide local routes that connect smaller settlements with the regional public transport network with integrated timetables that allow more interchange opportunities; and • Serve key locations within towns, e.g. hospitals, train stations, educational institutes, etc.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
Fáilte Ireland Tourism plans and strategies, including those relating to Ireland's Hidden Heathlands and Wild Atlantic Way, including Destination Experience Development Plans and Regional Tourism Development Strategies	Fáilte Ireland's work includes preparing various plans and strategies for Ireland's Ancient East and other brands and initiatives. These plans are subject to their own environmental assessment processes and any project arising is required to be consistent with and conform with the provisions of all adopted/approved Statutory Policies, Strategies, Plans and Programmes, including provisions for the protection and management of the environment.	Some of Fáilte Ireland's plans and strategies include various projects relating to land use and infrastructural development, including those relating to development of land or on land and the carrying out of land use activities. Many of these projects exist already while some are not currently in existence. The Statutory Policies, Strategies, Plans and Programmes that provide for different projects undergo a variety of environmental assessments. These assessments ensure that environmental effects are considered, including: those arising from new and intensified uses and activities; and those arising from various sectors such as tourism.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

Screening for SEA Report

Various existing, planned and emerging projects provided for by the above plans and programmes	These projects have been provided for by higher-level plans and programmes.	These projects will contribute towards the development of the area to which the Plan relates and/or wider area and will contribute towards environmental protection and management.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan to be varied to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
--	--	--	---



Leitrim County Development Plan 2023-2029

Áras an Chontae
Carrick-on-Shannon
County Leitrim
T: +353 (0)71 9620005

www.leitrim.ie



Comhairle
Chontae
Liatroma | Leitrim
County
Council